(CONTINUED FROM FRONT FLAP)

Shogo's mother is a bar hostess; his father could be any one of a dozen of her regular patrons. Growing up, he learns nothing of genuine love and tenderness, and when he witnesses his mother in the nearest approximation of which she's capable—lustful embrace—he receives a merciless beating soon afterwards. Shogo comes to hate the very notion of love. But goddesses, who are neither the Buddha nor Christ, do not excuse misfortunes of upbringing.

Apollo's Song reaches Olympian heights of tragedy as the story proceeds from a boxcar bound for a Nazi concentration camp to a dystopian future where human beings are persecuted by an ascendant race of their own clones. Will Shogo ever attain redemption, or, like the human race itself, will he have to relearn the lessons of love forever? Is it better to have loved and lost if the heartbreak must recur eternally?

Love, propagation, nature, war, death—Tezuka holds his trademark cornucopia of concerns together with striking characterizations, an unfailing sense of pacing, and of course, stunning imagery.

Though marked by a salty pessimism, this unique masterpiece from Tezuka's transitional period is also unabashedly romantic—and, at times, profoundly erotic. Combining a classic tale of thwarted love with cognitive ambiguities reminiscent of the work of Philip K. Dick, *Apollo's Song* is guaranteed to plumb new depths of the human heart with each rereading.

OSAMU
TEZUKA

手塚治虫

APOLLO'S SONG

APOLLO'S SONG

OSAMU TEZUKA

VERTICAL.

TRANSLATION—CAMELLIA NIEH
PRODUCTION—HIROKO MIZUNO
SHINOBU SATO

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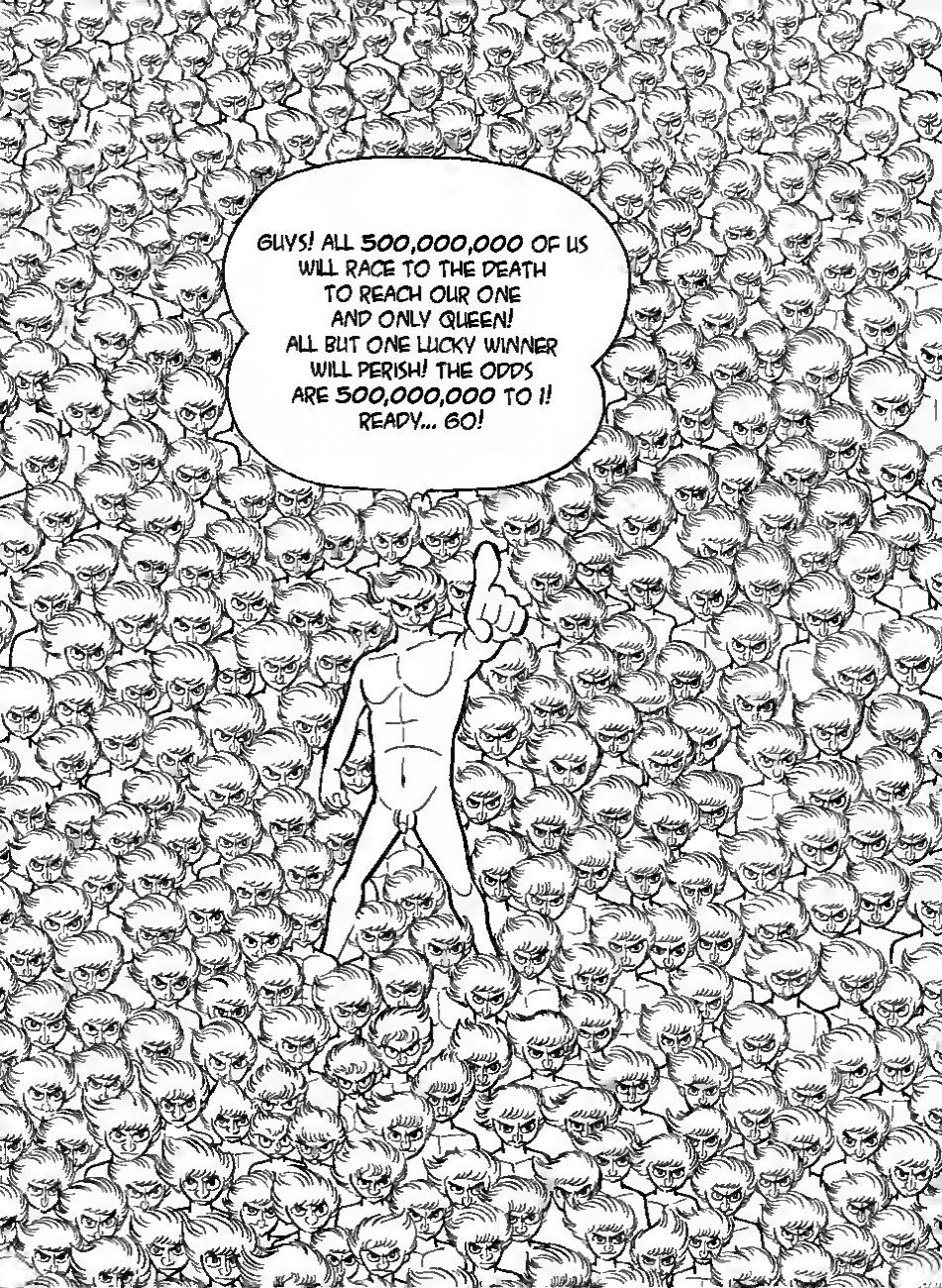
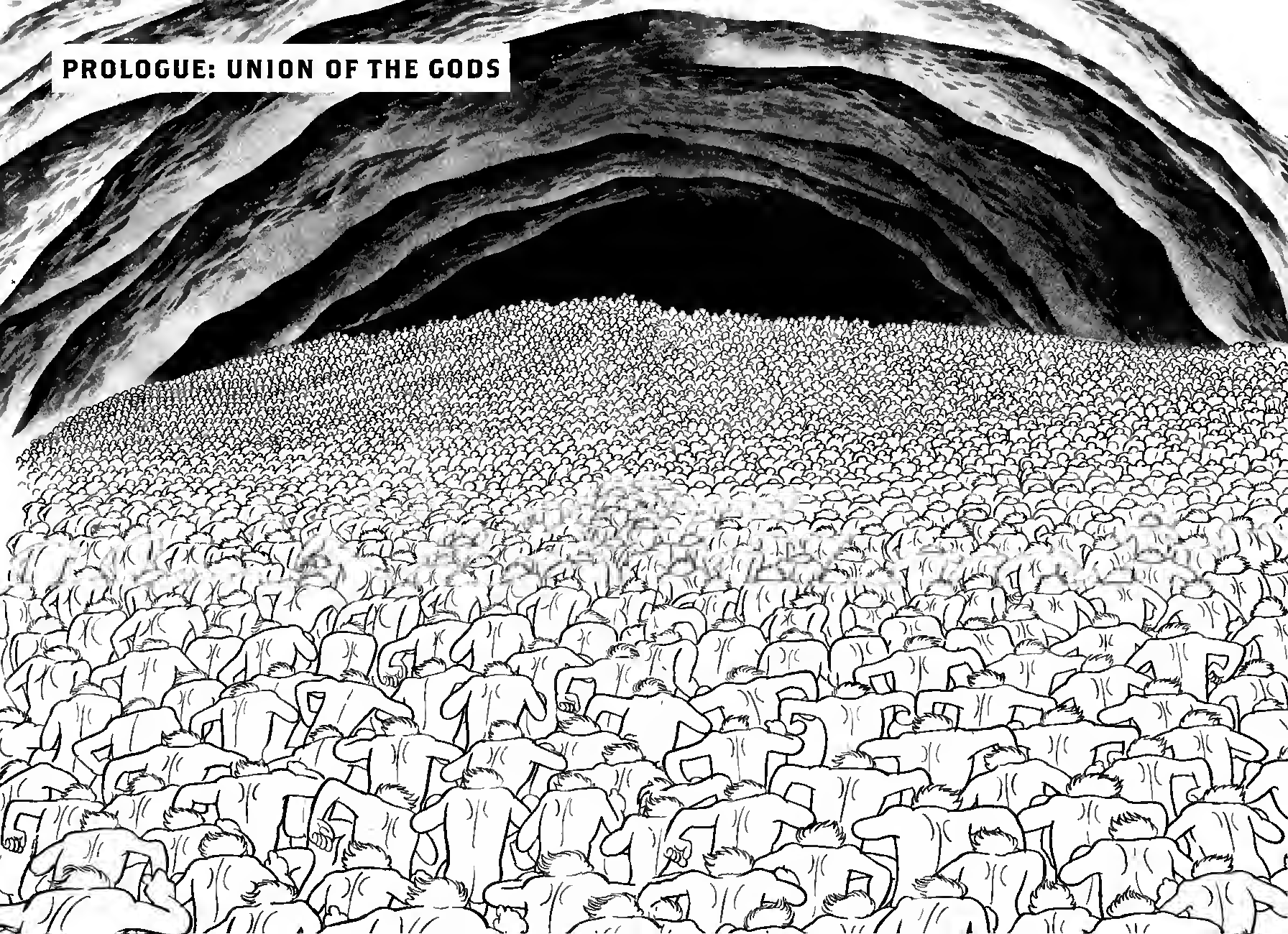
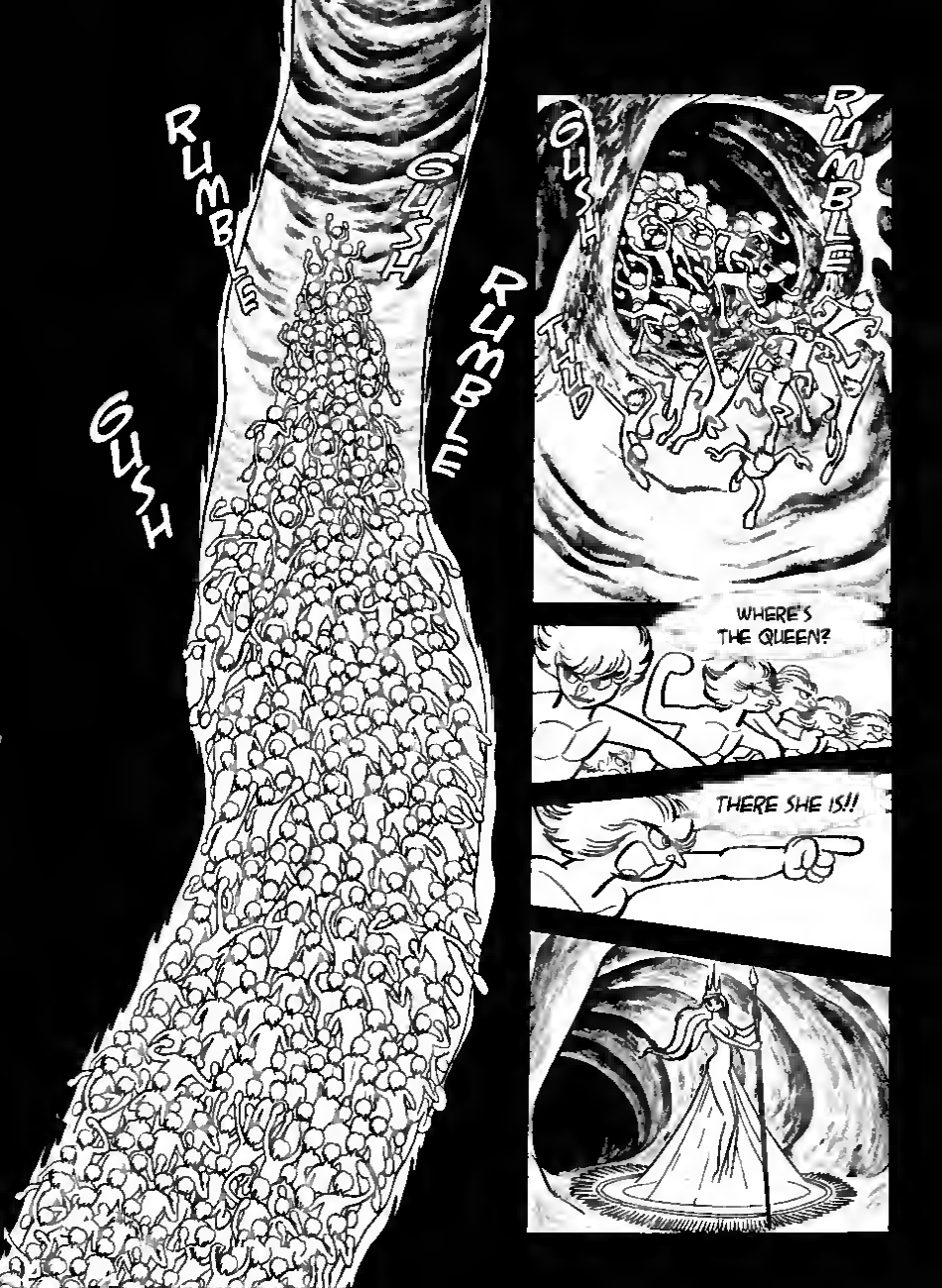

GUYS! ALL 500,000,000 OF US WILL RACE TO THE DEATH TO REACH OUR ONE AND ONLY QUEEN! ALL BUT ONE LUCKY WINNER WILL PERISH! THE ODDS ARE 500,000,000 TO 1! READY... GO!

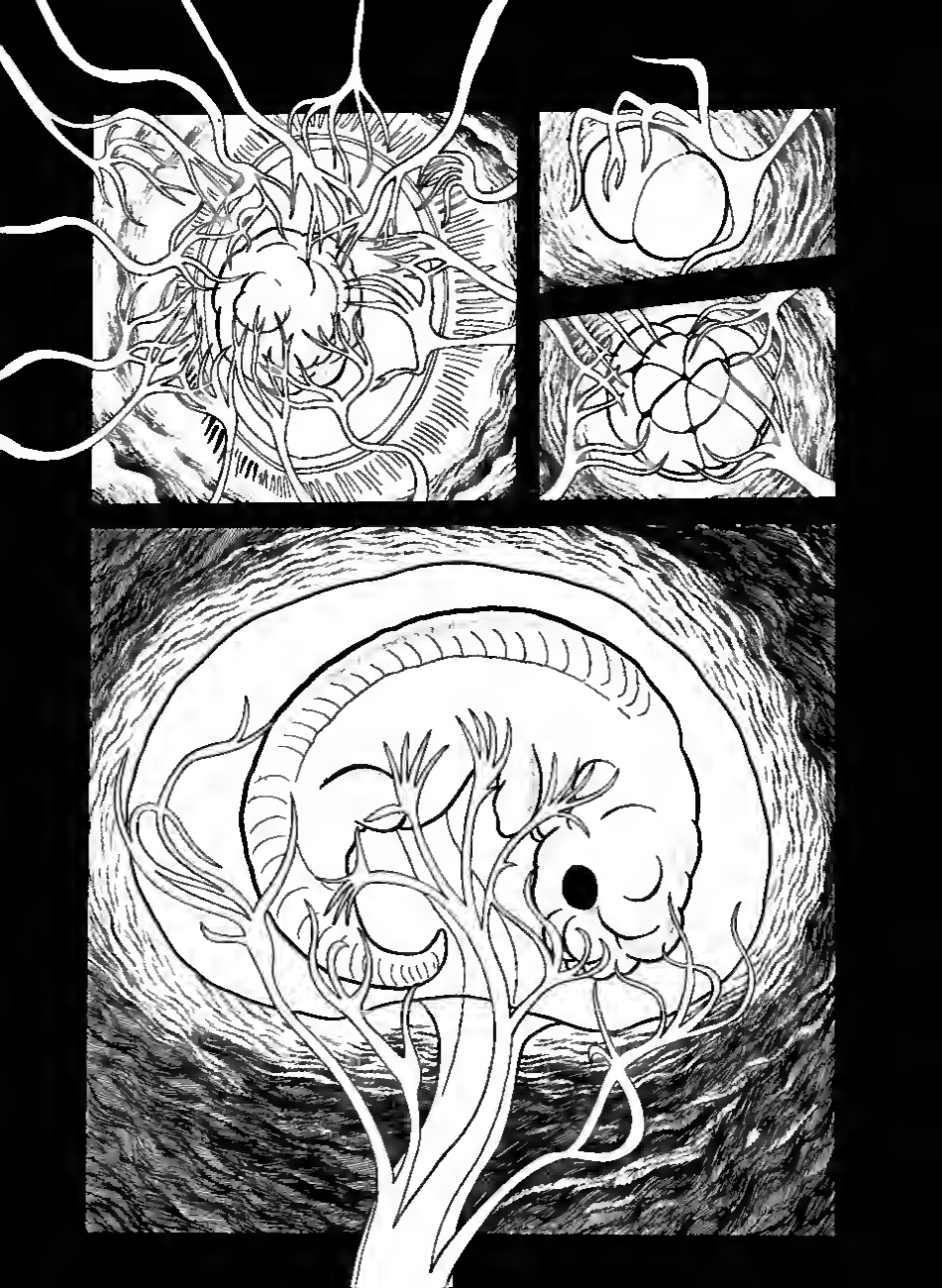
PROLOGUE: UNION OF THE GODS

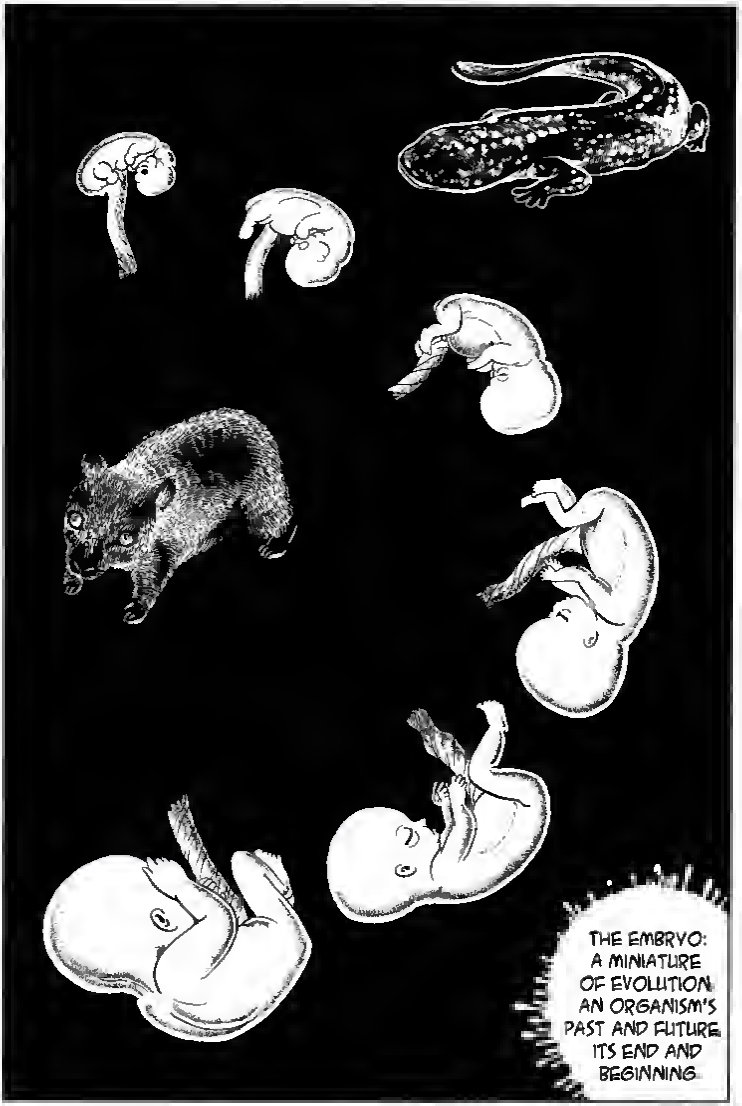


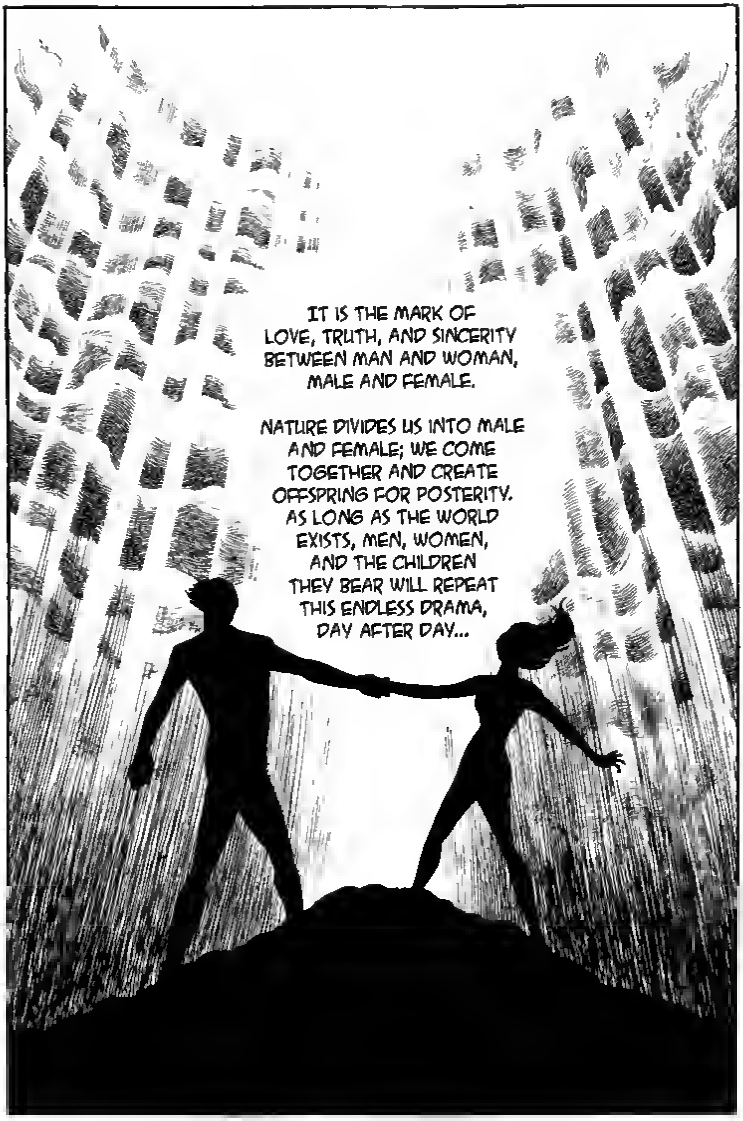

RUMBLE
GUSH
GUSH
RUMBLE
GUSH
RUMBLE
GUSH
THUD
WHERE'S THE QUEEN?
THERE SHE IS!!

HEY, OUTTA THE WAY! I SAW HER FIRST!
YEAH, BUT WHOEVER GETS THERE FIRST WINS!
SHUT UP! YOU ALL CAN DROP DEAD!

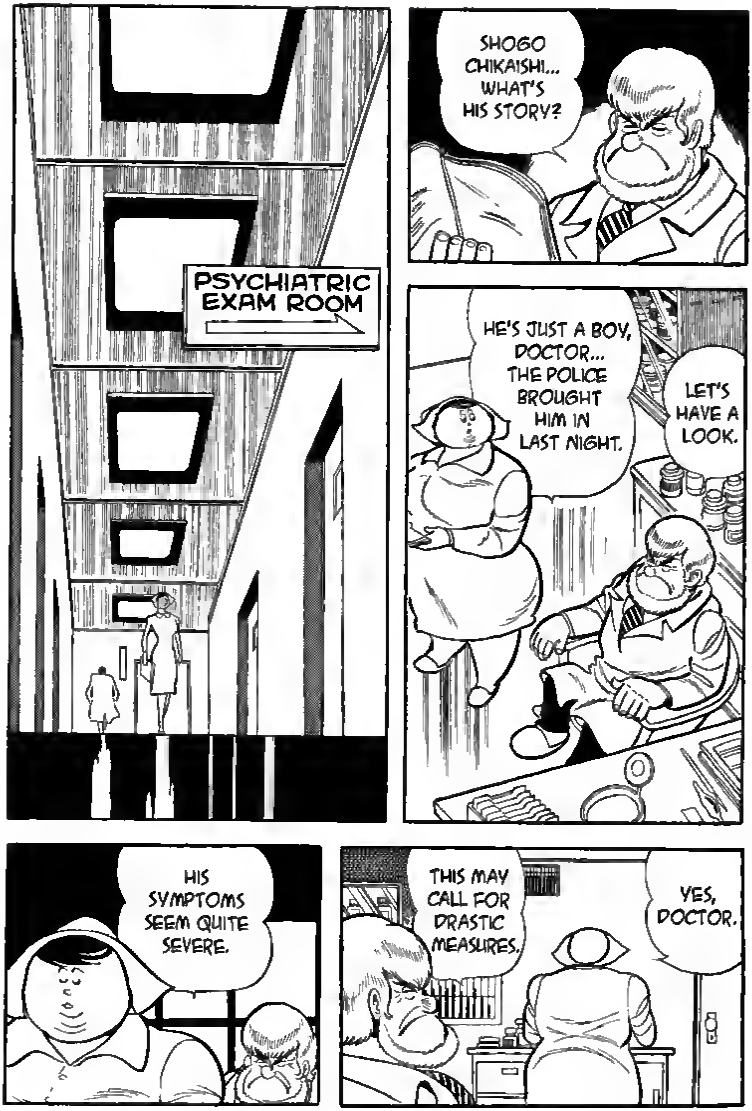
SHE'S MINE!
YES! I TOUCHED HER FIRST!
M-MY QUEEN, ONLY I WAS ABLE TO REACH YOU. PLEASE DON'T PUSH ME AWAY!
WHY WOULD I DO THAT, OH CHOSEN ONE?
WE'RE ALL GONNA GET LEFT BEHIND?
I DON'T WANNA DIE!
CAN'T YOU TAKE JUST ONE MORE?
PLOP
SWIRL

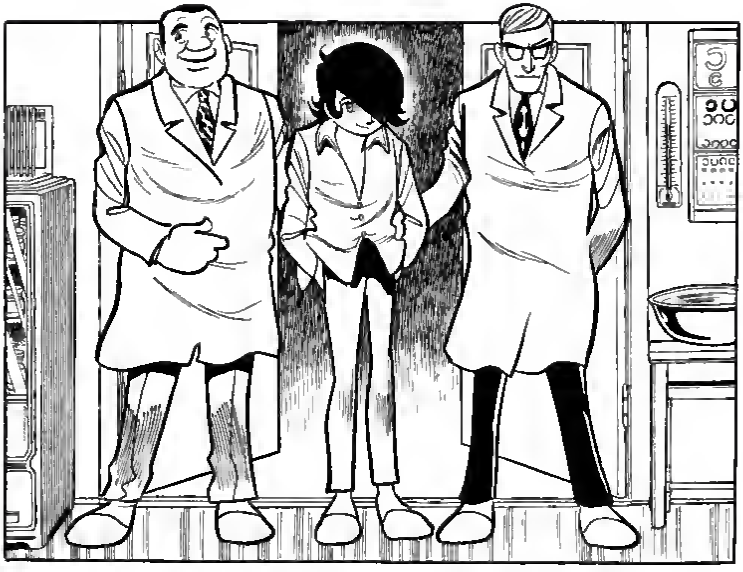



THE EMBRYO:
A MINIATURE
OF EVOLUTION.
AN ORGANISM'S
PAST AND FUTURE.
ITS END AND
BEGINNING.


IT IS THE MARK OF LOVE, TRUTH, AND SINCERITY BETWEEN MAN AND WOMAN, MALE AND FEMALE.
NATURE DIVIDES US INTO MALE AND FEMALE; WE COME TOGETHER AND CREATE OFFSPRING FOR POSTERITY. AS LONG AS THE WORLD EXISTS, MEN, WOMEN, AND THE CHILDREN THEY BEAR WILL REPEAT THIS ENDLESS DRAMA, DAY AFTER DAY...

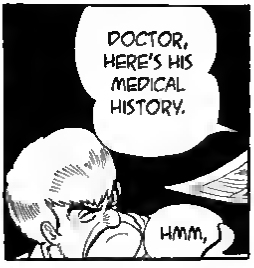
APOLLO'S SONG

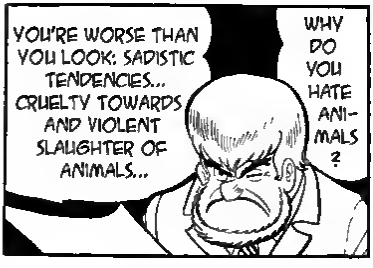

PSYCHIATRIC EXAM ROOM
SHOGO CHIKAISHI... WHAT'S HIS STORY?
HE'S JUST A BOY, DOCTOR... THE POLICE BROUGHT HIM IN LAST NIGHT.
LET'S HAVE A LOOK.
HIS SYMPTOMS SEEM QUITE SEVERE.
THIS MAY CALL FOR DRASTIC MEASURES.
YES, DOCTOR.



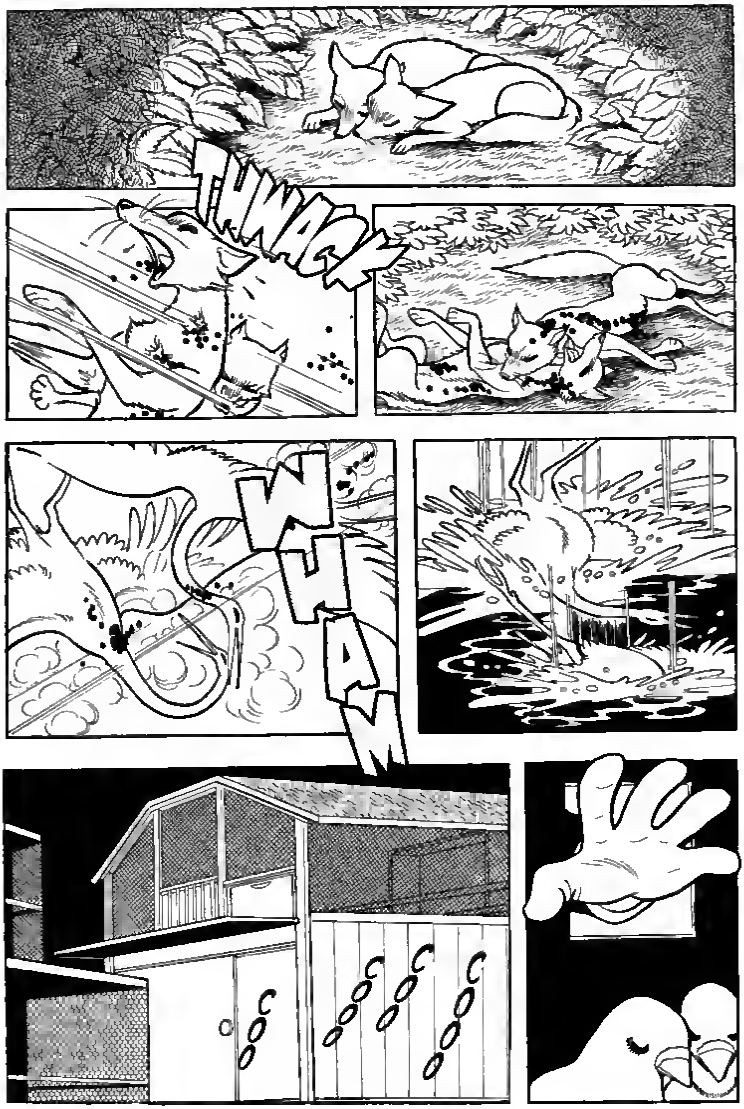
HELLO, DOCTOR.
WELL, AREN'T WE POLITE?

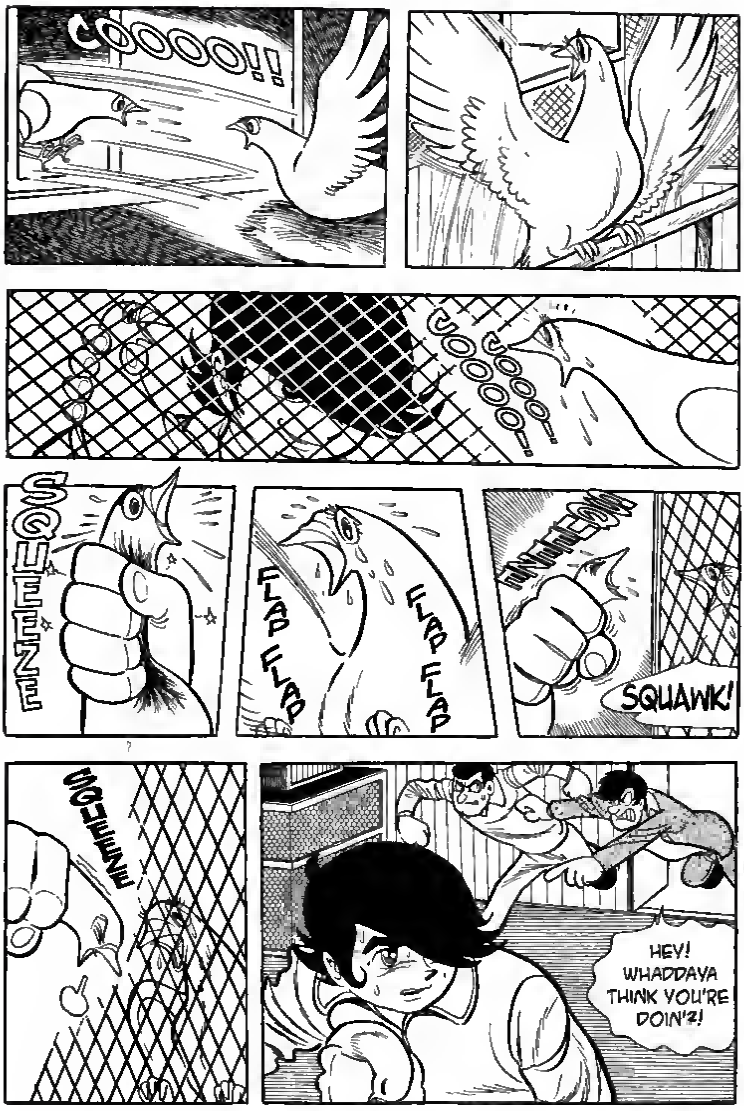
SURE!
I DON'T WANT TO START OFF ON THE WRONG FOOT.

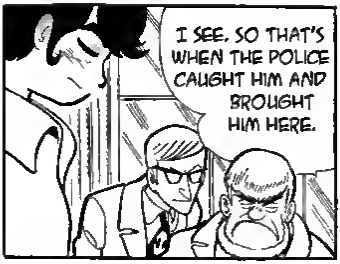

DOCTOR, HERE'S HIS MEDICAL HISTORY.
HMM,


YOU'RE WORSE THAN YOU LOOK: SADISTIC TENDENCIES... CRUELTY TOWARDS AND VIOLENT SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS...
WHY DO YOU HATE ANIMALS?

DOCTOR, FOR EXAMPLE...

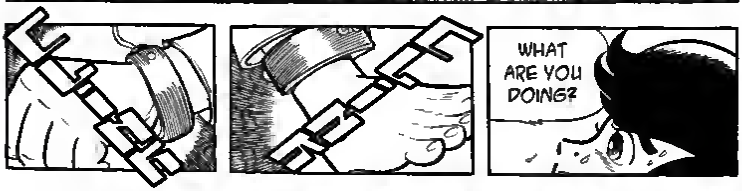

THWACK!
WHAM

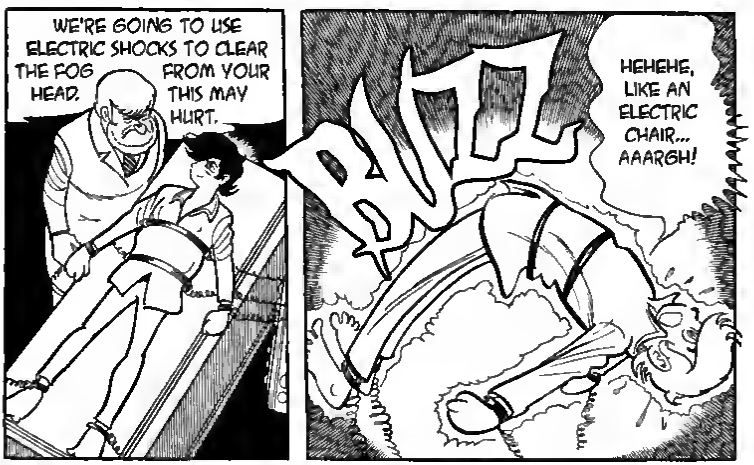

GOOOO!!
YOOOO-
YOOOO-
SQUEEZE
FLAP FLAP
FLAP FLAP
SQUAWK!
SQUEEZE
HEY! WHADDAYA THINK YOU'RE DOIN'?!


I SEE. SO THAT'S WHEN THE POLICE CAUGHT HIM AND BROUGHT HIM HERE.

HE MIGHT BE CAPABLE OF KILLING A PERSON, FOR ALL WE KNOW.
HE'S VERY DANGER-OUS.

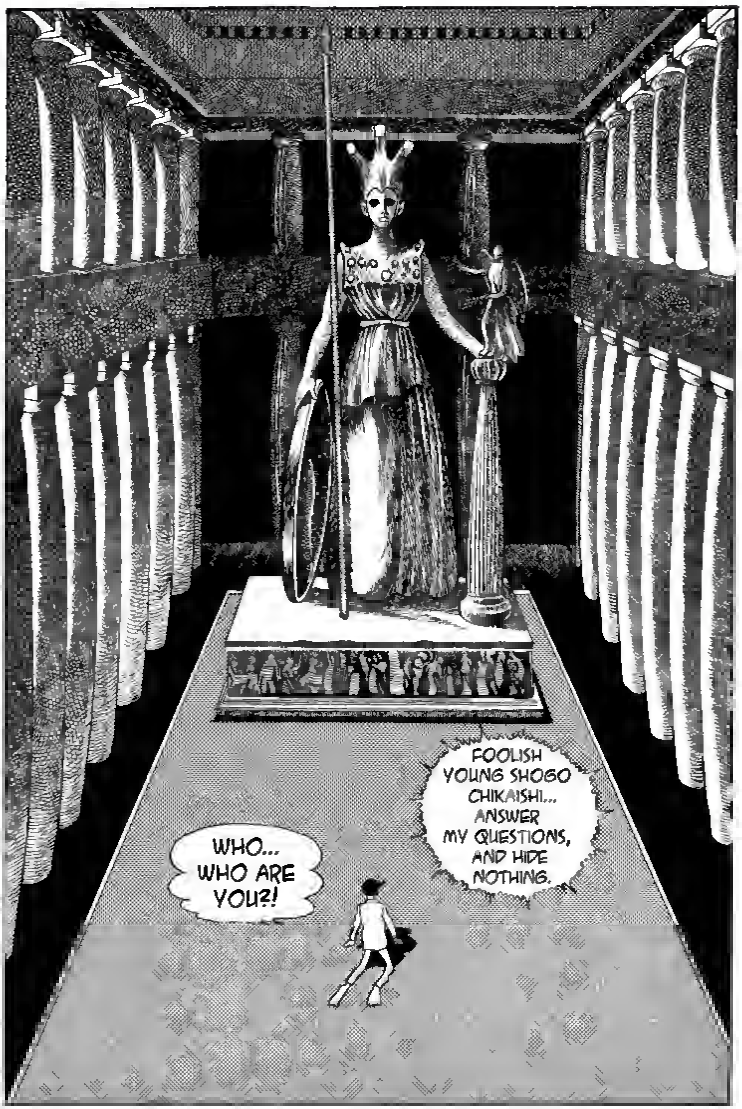
THIS CALLS FOR DRASTIC MEASURES.
PREPARE HIM FOR ELECTRO-SHOCK THERAPY!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

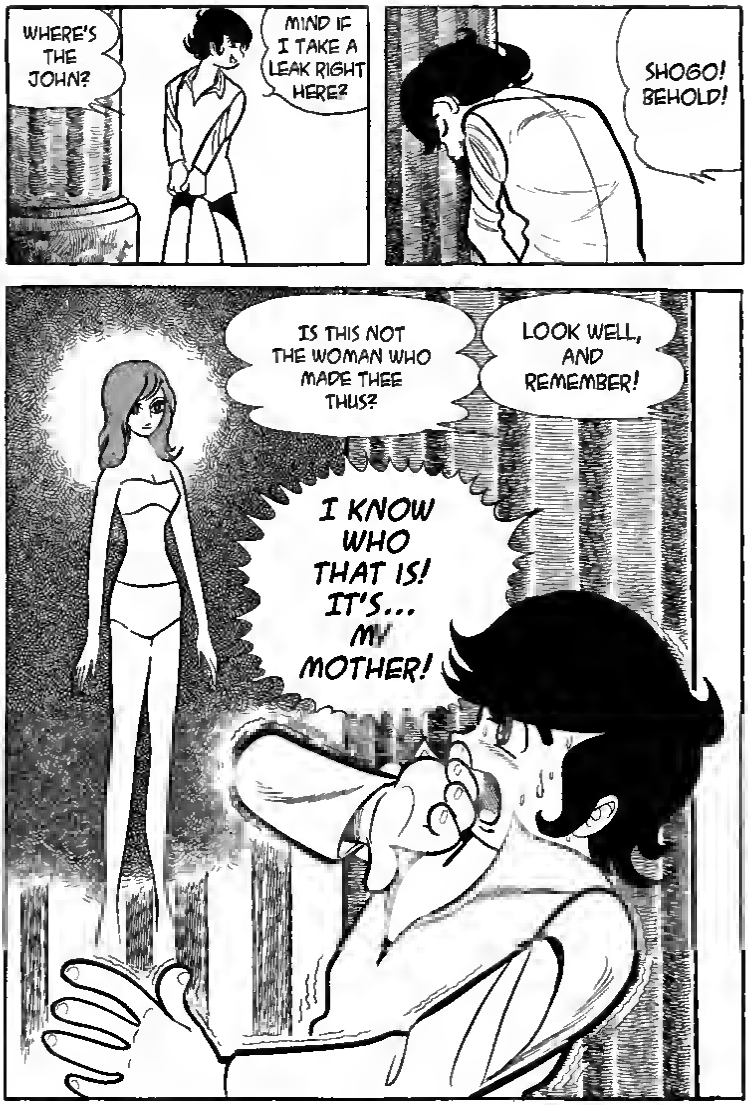

WE'RE GOING TO USE ELECTRIC SHOCKS TO CLEAR THE FOG FROM YOUR HEAD. THIS MAY HURT.
BUZZ
HEHEHE, LIKE AN ELECTRIC CHAIR... AAARGH!

BUZZ BUZZ BUZZ BUZZ
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING? STOP! YOU TRYIN' TO KILL ME?
ARGH!

AARGH!
SON OF A BITCH!
I DON'T DESERVE TO BE TORTURED LIKE THIS...
HUH? SUDDENLY I'M SOMEWHERE ELSE.
WHERE THE HELL AM I?!
THIS DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A HOSPITAL...
MORE LIKE A GREEK TEMPLE.


FOOLISH YOUNG SHOGO CHIKAISHI... ANSWER MY QUESTIONS, AND HIDE NOTHING.
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?!

WHY DOST THOU HATE LOVE?
HEH... HEHE I DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER THAT.
ANSWER!
SEEING PEOPLE IN LOVE MAKES ME SICK, THAT'S ALL.
WHY DOST THOU NOT ANSWER?
HEHEHE ... HEHE ...
WARUU WARUU
WARUU
THERE'S NO POINT IN TALKING ABOUT IT...
I HAVE NO IDEA WHY!


WHERE'S THE JOHN?
MIND IF I TAKE A LEAK RIGHT HERE?
SHOGO! BEHOLD!
IS THIS NOT THE WOMAN WHO MADE THEE THUS?
LOOK WELL, AND REMEMBER!
I KNOW WHO THAT IS! IT'S... MY MOTHER!

I DON'T WANT TO LOOK AT HER...
WHY NOT? SHOGO, SPEAK!
HUH?
IN FRONT OF HER? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!
SHE IS BUT AN ILLUSION... SPEAK WITHOUT FEAR.
SAY EVERYTHING, AND THY MIND AND HEART WILL CLEAR.
SHE'S DEFINITELY THE WOMAN... WHO GAVE ME BIRTH...

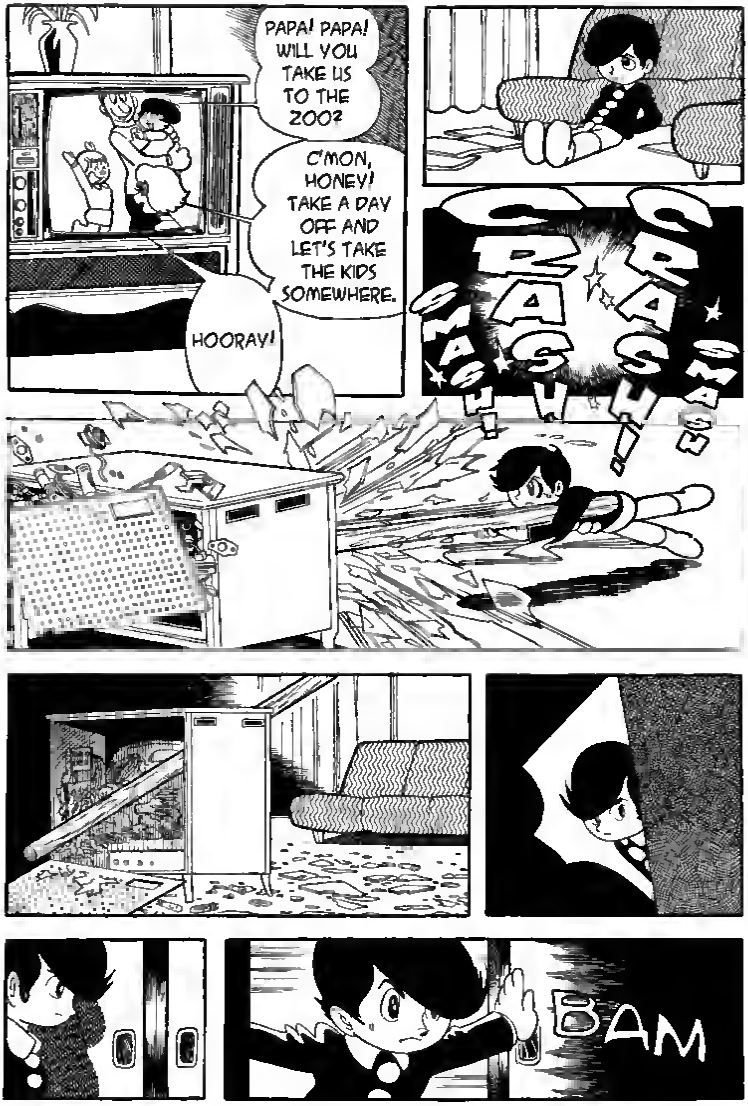
BUT AT THE MOMENT I WAS BORN, I WAS CUT OFF FROM HER.
SHE WAS BUSY, AND HER BREASTS DIDN'T HAVE A DROP OF MILK.
WAAAAAH
WAAAH
WAAAHH
NO BREAST MILK?
GIVE HIM FORMULA, THEN.

BUT SIR, THEY SAY IT WEAKENS THE BOND BETWEEN MOTHER AND CHILD!
WHO THE HELL ASKED YOU?
SAY HELLO TO PAPA!!
SHUT UP!
WAAA

EVEN AS I GREW UP, I NEVER KNEW WHO MY FATHER WAS.
MAMA, SQUARE-FACE PAPA IS HERE!
I ASK YOU TO REMEMBER HIS NAME AND YOU CAN'T EVEN DO THAT? DUMB KID!
HEVA!
OOH, PAPA, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
HEY THERE, KIDDO!
HE'S YOUR SON.
IT'S TRUE!
HE LOOKS NOTHING LIKE ME! HE CAN'T BE.

MAMA ...
I'M TALKING WITH PAPA! NOW STAY OUT, OR ELSE!
...
SLAM
MAMA, THIS TIME BIG-NOSE PAPA IS HERE!
HOW CAN I HAVE SO MANY PAPAS? WHO'S MY REAL PAPA?
I TOLD YOU TO LEARN HIS NAME!
DUMB KID!
IT'S DROOPY-EYED PAPA!

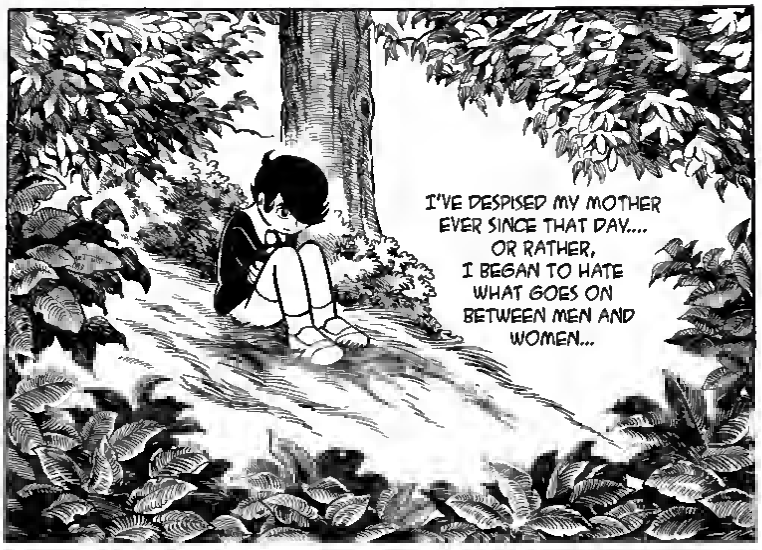
HUGGED!
YOU KNOW, PAPA, I LOVE YOU THE BEST. IT'S TRUE!
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT? RUN OFF AND PLAY!
I NEED MONEY FOR SCHOOL.
THERE !!

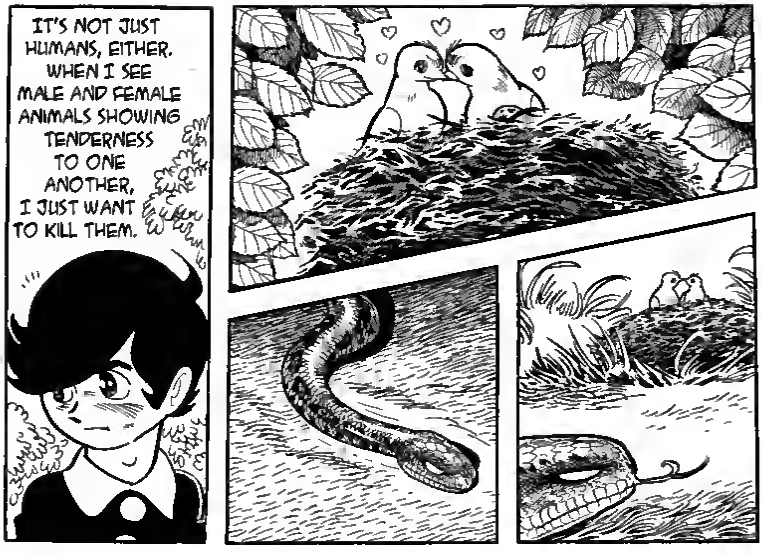

PAPA! PAPA! WILL YOU TAKE US TO THE ZOO?
C'MON, HONEY! TAKE A DAY OFF AND LET'S TAKE THE KIDS SOMEWHERE.
HOORAY!
CRASH!
CRASH!
CRASH!
BAM

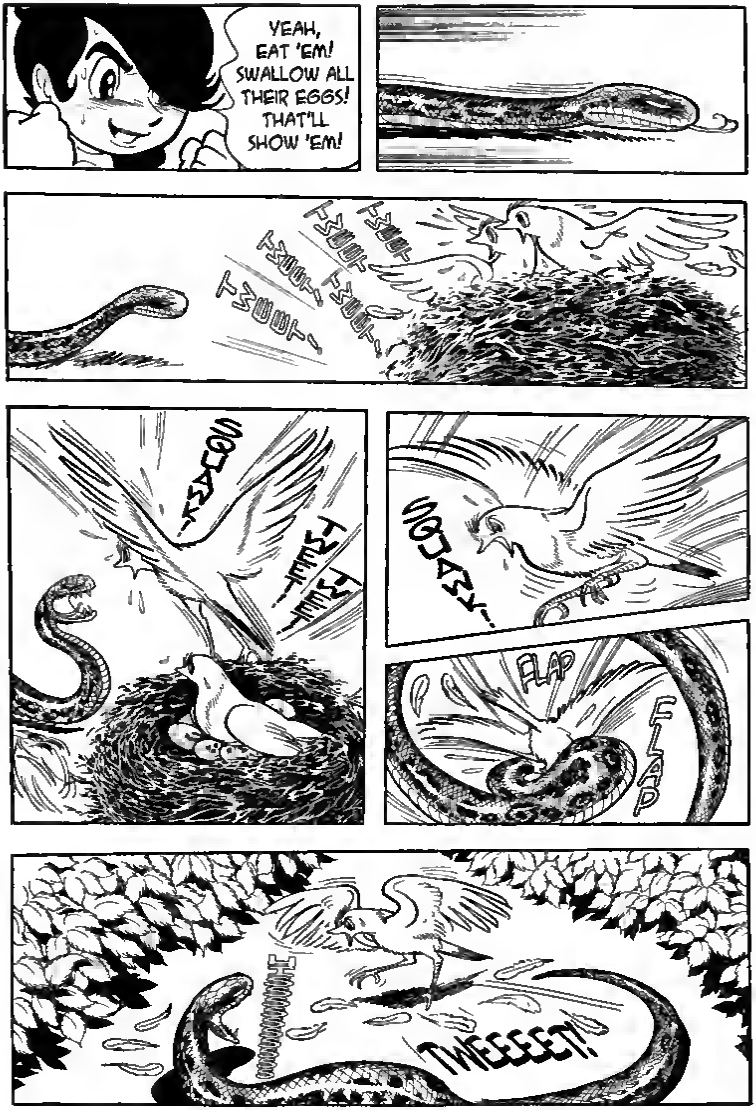
CLOSE THE DOOR! STOP LOOKING AT US! CLOSE IT, YOU IDIOT!
SLAM!!

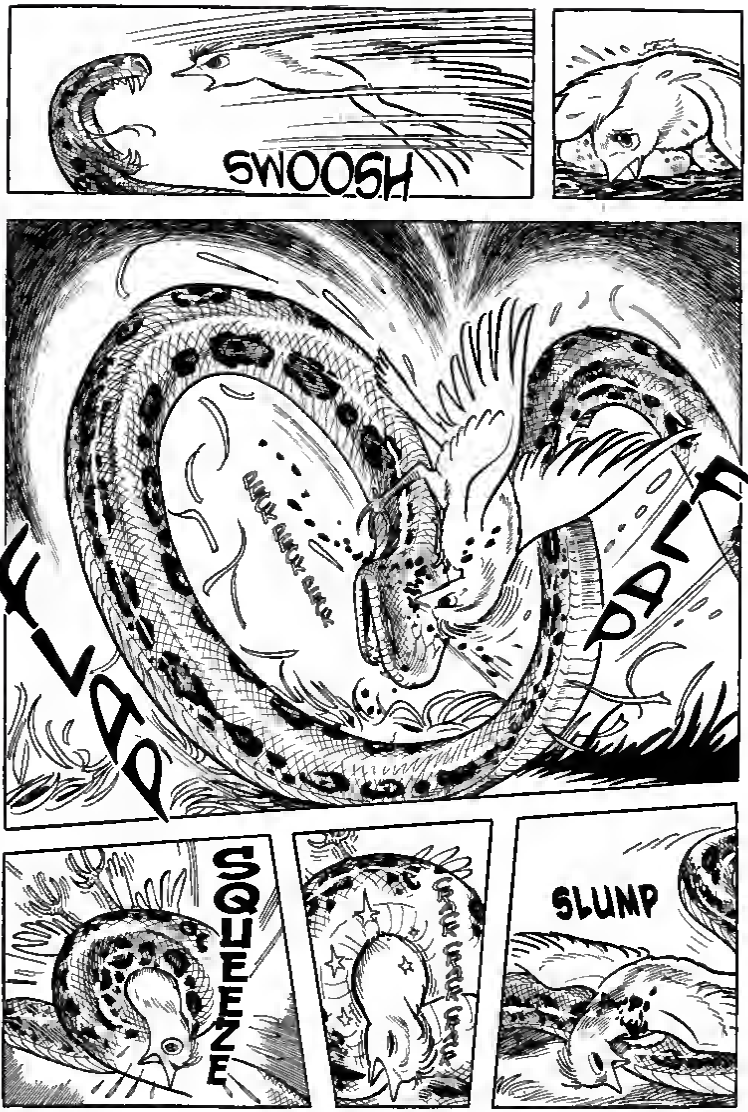
CLATTER
SLAM
TONK
TONK
TONK
TONK
TONK
TONK
SHOGO, WHAT DID YOU SEE IN THERE?
I SAW MAMA AND PAPA NAKED DOING NAUGHTY THINGS

MAMA! PLEASE! I'M SORRY! WAAH! WAAH! WAAAH! WAH WAH WAAAH! WAAAAH!
BASH
BASH
BASH
WHY'D I EVER EVEN HAVE YOU? I SHOULDN'T HAVE. WHAT A FOOL I WAS...
WHY... DID YOU... HAVE ME?
I WISH I'D NEVER BEEN BORN...
WELL THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MEN AND WOMEN SLEEP TOGETHER!
...


I'VE DESPISED MY MOTHER EVER SINCE THAT DAY.... OR RATHER, I BEGAN TO HATE WHAT GOES ON BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN...


IT'S NOT JUST HUMANS, EITHER. WHEN I SEE MALE AND FEMALE ANIMALS SHOWING TENDERNESS TO ONE ANOTHER, I JUST WANT TO KILL THEM.

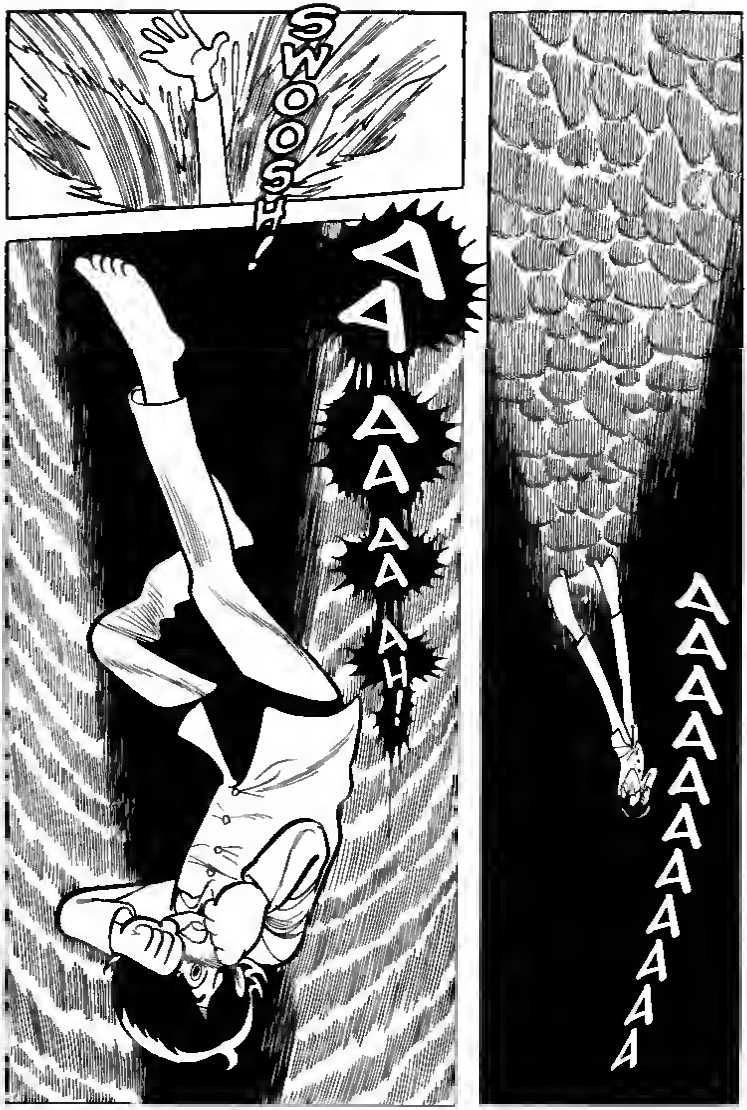

YEAH, EAT 'EM! SWALLOW ALL THEIR EGGS! THAT'LL SHOW 'EM!
トシュポトシュポトシュポトシュポトシュポトー
ガブッ
ゴクン
ゴクン
FLAP
FLAP
TWEEEET!!

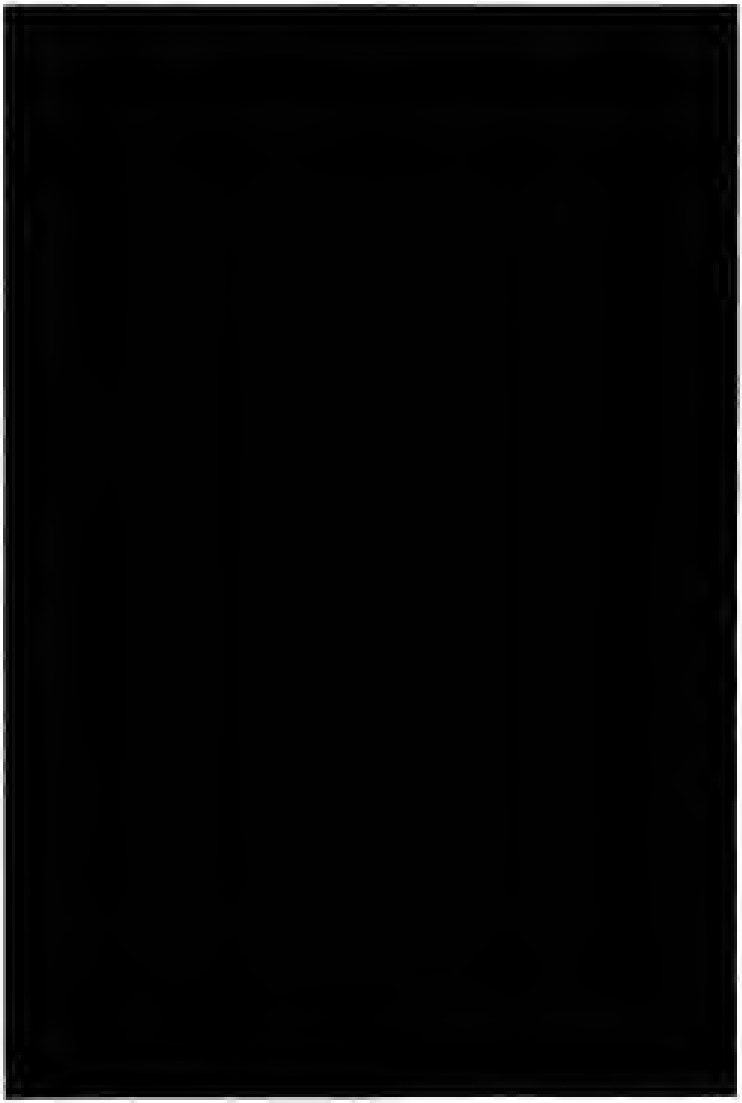

SWOOSH
FLAP
FLAP
SQUEEZE
CRACK CRACK CRACK
SLUMP

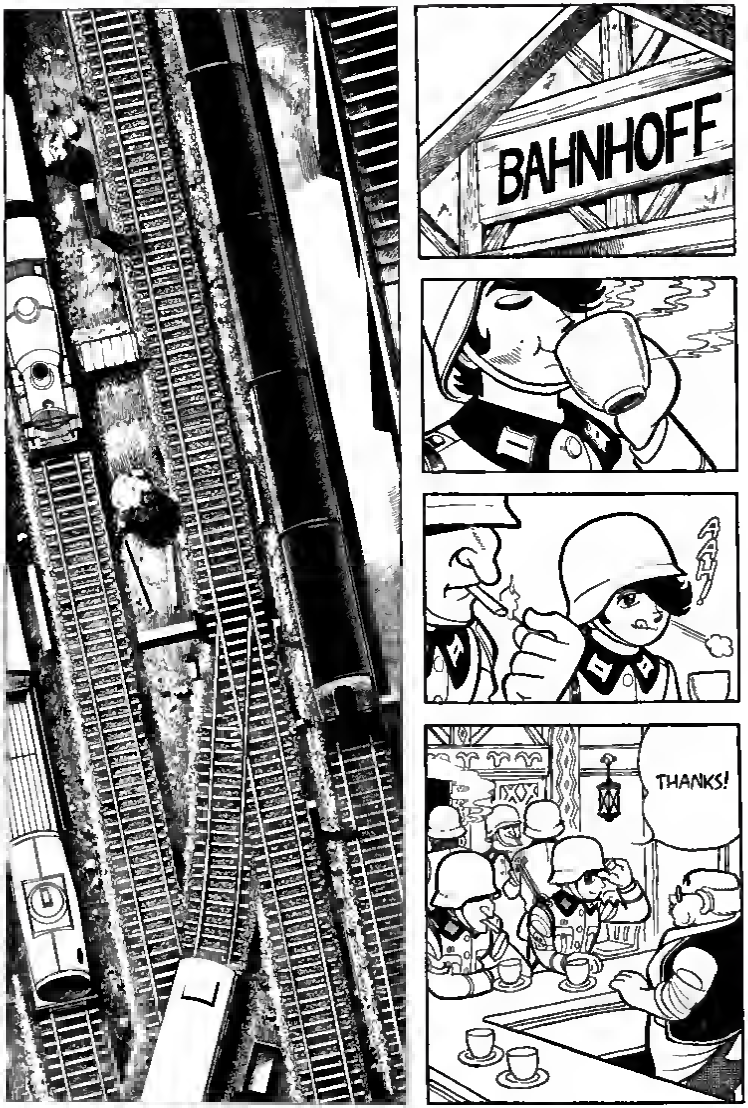
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
TCH
TCH
TCH
TCH
TO HELL WITH YOU!
THUD!

I'VE SAID IT ALL.
THAT'S ALL.
SHOGO, THOU MUST BE PUNISHED.
THOU HAST DISDAINED THE BEAUTY AND SANCTITY OF LOVE.
WHY? ISN'T IT ENOUGH THAT I'M IN THE HOSPITAL?
NOW RECEIVE THY JUST DESERTS!

THOU SHALT LOVE ONE WOMAN AGAIN AND AGAIN. BUT BEFORE THE TWO ARE UNITED IN LOVE, ONE SHALL PERISH.
AWAKEN, AND BE GONE!
MAY THY TRIALS COMMENCE, AND CONTINUE...
FOREVER!
BOOM
EVEN IN DEATH, THOU SHALT BE REBORN, TO UNDERGO YET ANOTHER TRIAL OF LOVE!
THOU SHALT SUFFER, FOR ETERNITY!


SWOOSH!
AAAAAAH!
AAAAAAAAAA

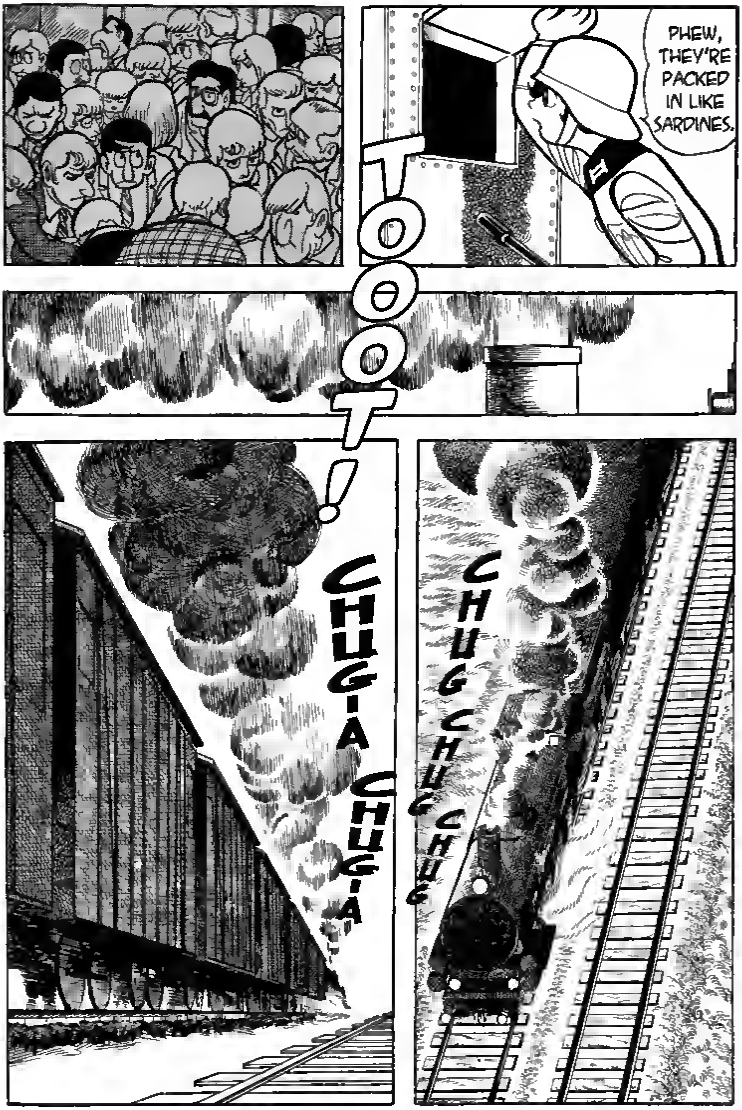


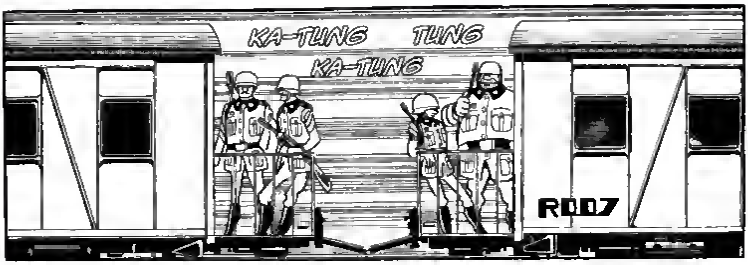

BAHNHOFF
AAH!
THANKS!

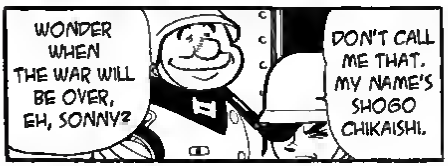
CHAPTER 1: DIE BLUMEN UND DIE LEICHE

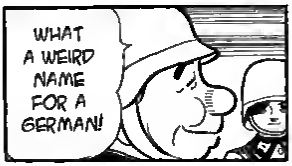
[FLOWERS AND THE CORPSE]

YOU WILL BOARD THE NO. 16 TRAIN TO OVERSEE THE TRANSPORT OF PRISONERS.
50 PRISONERS PER FREIGHT CAR! TWO OF YOU WILL GUARD EACH CAR.
IF A PRISONER ATTEMPTS ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS, DO NOT HESITATE TO SHOOT!
THAT GOES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN TOO!!
NOW ALL ABOARD !
C'MON, LET'S GO.
RIGHT


PHEW, THEY'RE PACKED IN LIKE SARDINES.
TOOOT!
CHUG-A CHUG-A
CHUG CHUG CHUG


KA-TUNG TUNG
KA-TUNG
RDD7

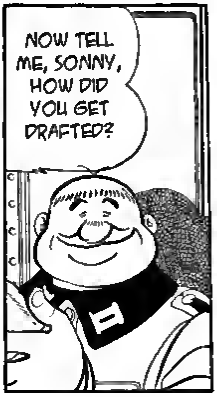

WONDER WHEN THE WAR WILL BE OVER, EH, SONNY?
DON'T CALL ME THAT. MY NAME'S SHOGO CHIKAISHI.

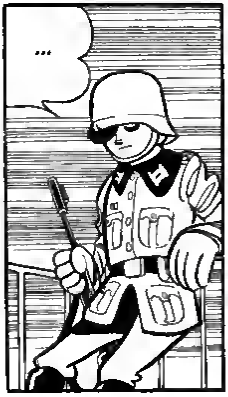

WHAT A WEIRD NAME FOR A GERMAN!

IT'S THE NAME I WAS BORN WITH.

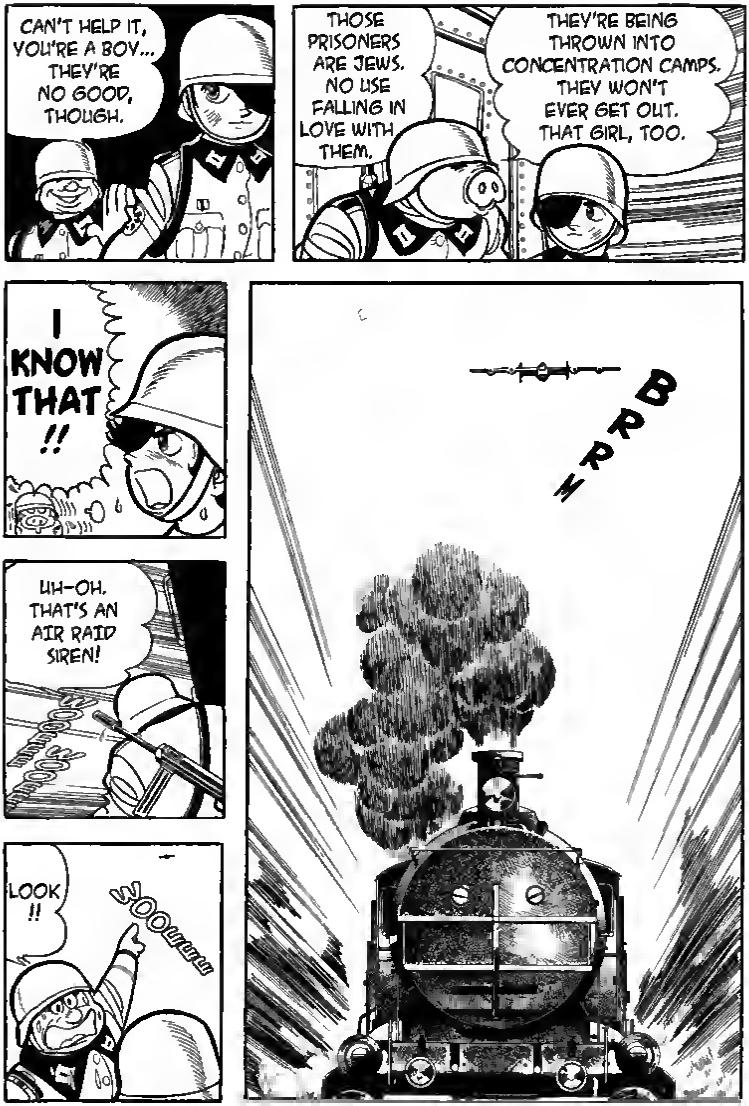
FINE ...
I USED TO BE A BAKER. BEFORE THE WAR, KIDS LIKE YOU FLOCKED TO MY SHOP. THAT'S ALL OVER NOW...

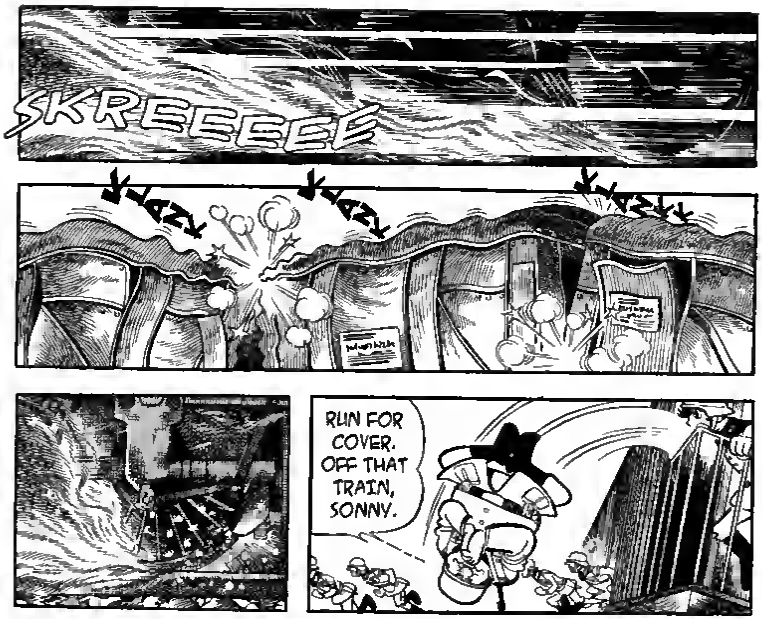
THE BREAD'S AWFUL AND IT'S RATIONED TO BOOT. AH, I WISH THIS WAR WOULD HURRY UP AND END. I DON'T CARE WHO WINS...

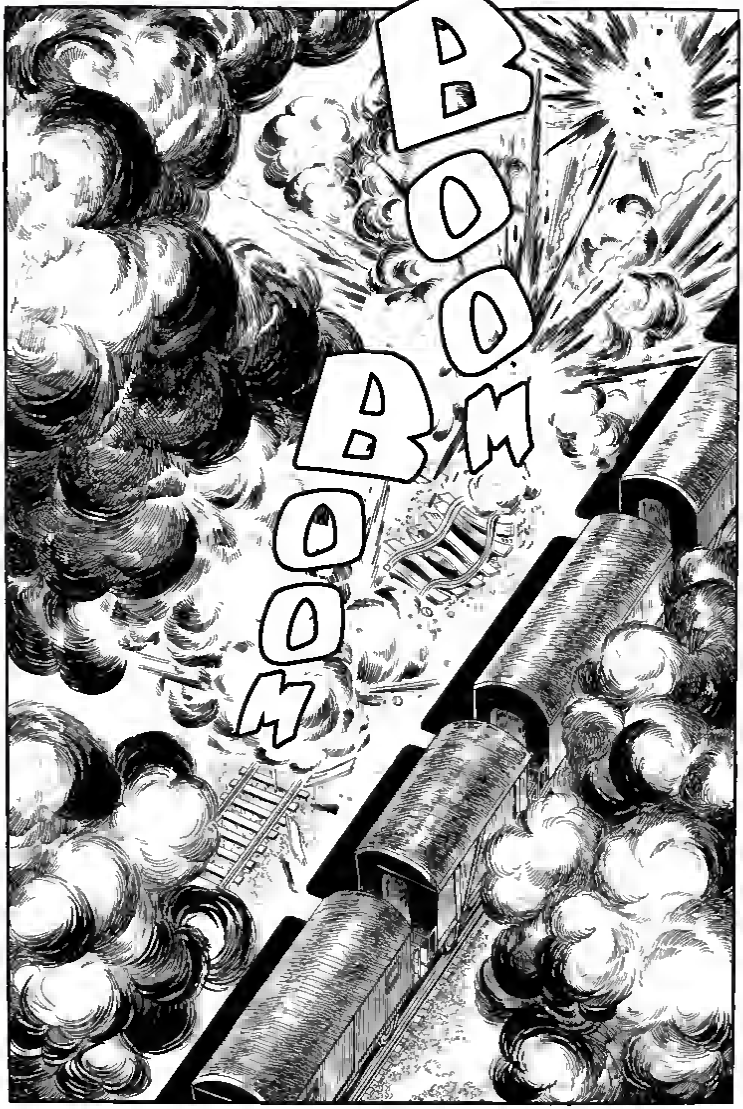

NOW TELL ME, SONNY, HOW DID YOU GET DRAFTED?

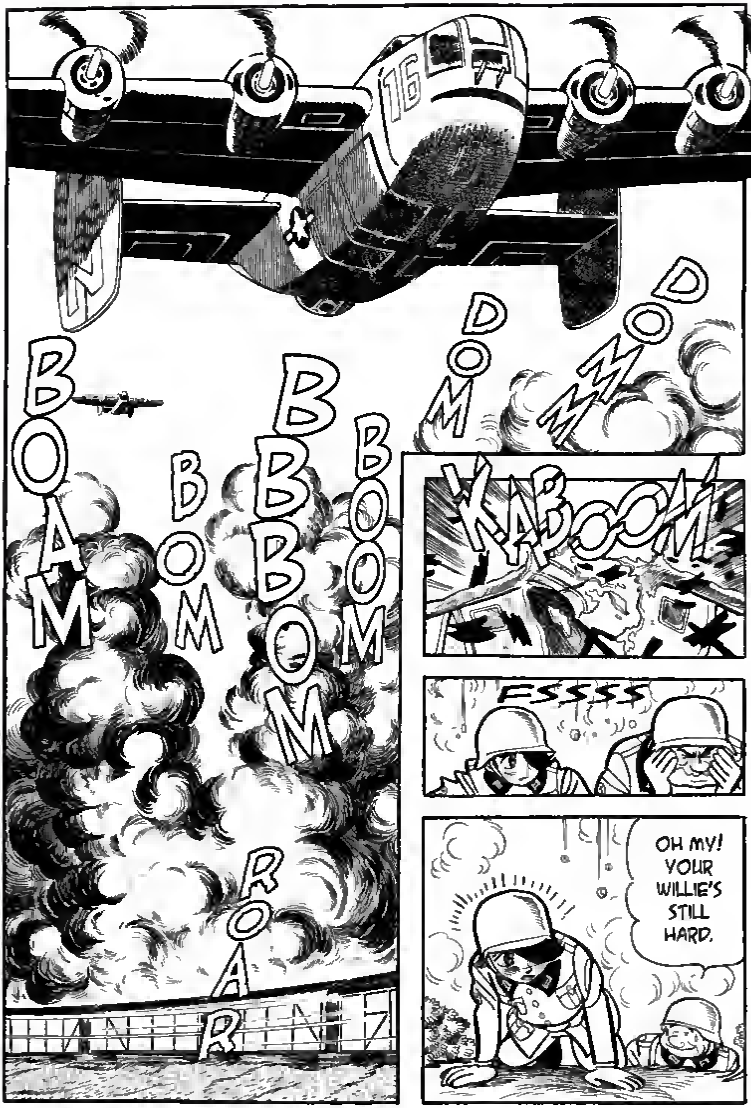

...

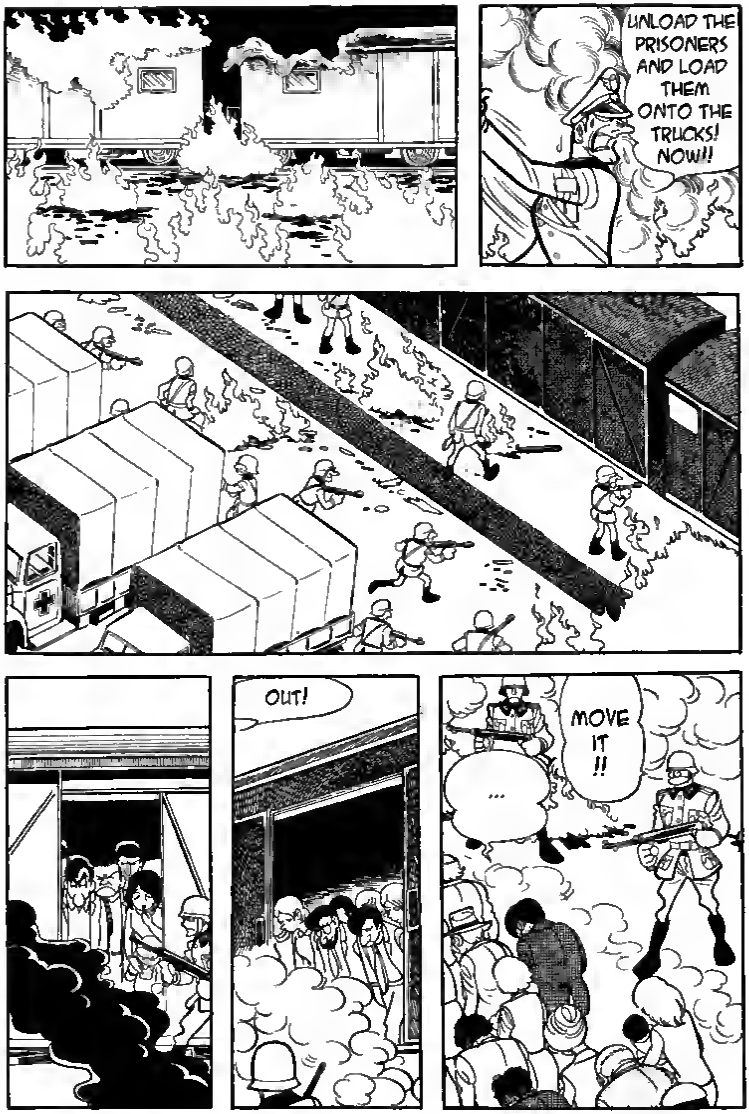
WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT DID YOU SEE? HMM!
YOU'RE A FUNNY ONE...
YOUR WEENIE'S ALL HARD!
OH-HO, NOW I SEE...

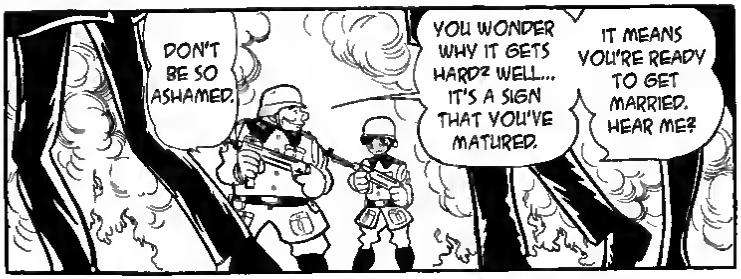

CAN'T HELP IT, YOU'RE A BOY... THEY'RE NO GOOD, THOUGH.
THOSE PRISONERS ARE JEWS. NO USE FALLING IN LOVE WITH THEM.
THEY'RE BEING THROWN INTO CONCENTRATION CAMPS. THEY WON'T EVER GET OUT. THAT GIRL, TOO.
I KNOW THAT !!
BRRRR
UH-OH. THAT'S AN AIR RAID SIREN!
WOOOOOOO
LOOK !!
WOOOOOOO

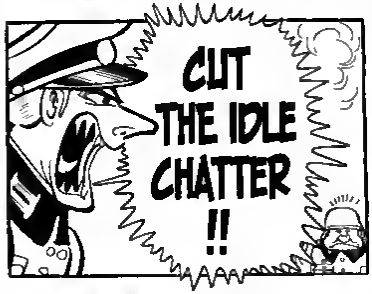

SKREEEEE
RUN FOR COVER. OFF THAT TRAIN, SONNY.
WOOO


BOOM
BOOM

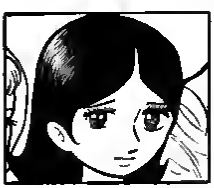

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
ROAR
KABOOM!
FSSSS
OH MY! YOUR WILLIE'S STILL HARD.

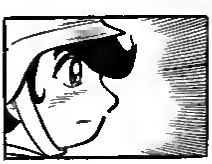

UNLOAD THE PRISONERS AND LOAD THEM ONTO THE TRUCKS! NOW!!
OUT!
MOVE IT !!
...

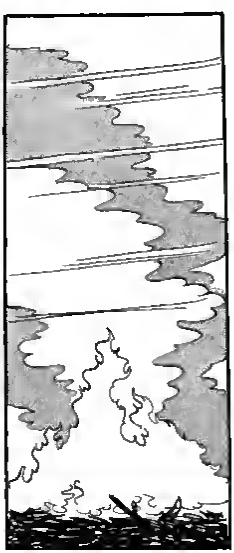

DON'T BE SO ASHAMED.
YOU WONDER WHY IT GETS HARD? WELL... IT'S A SIGN THAT YOU'VE MATURED.
IT MEANS YOU'RE READY TO GET MARRIED. HEAR ME?


CUT THE IDLE CHATTER !!

...
...

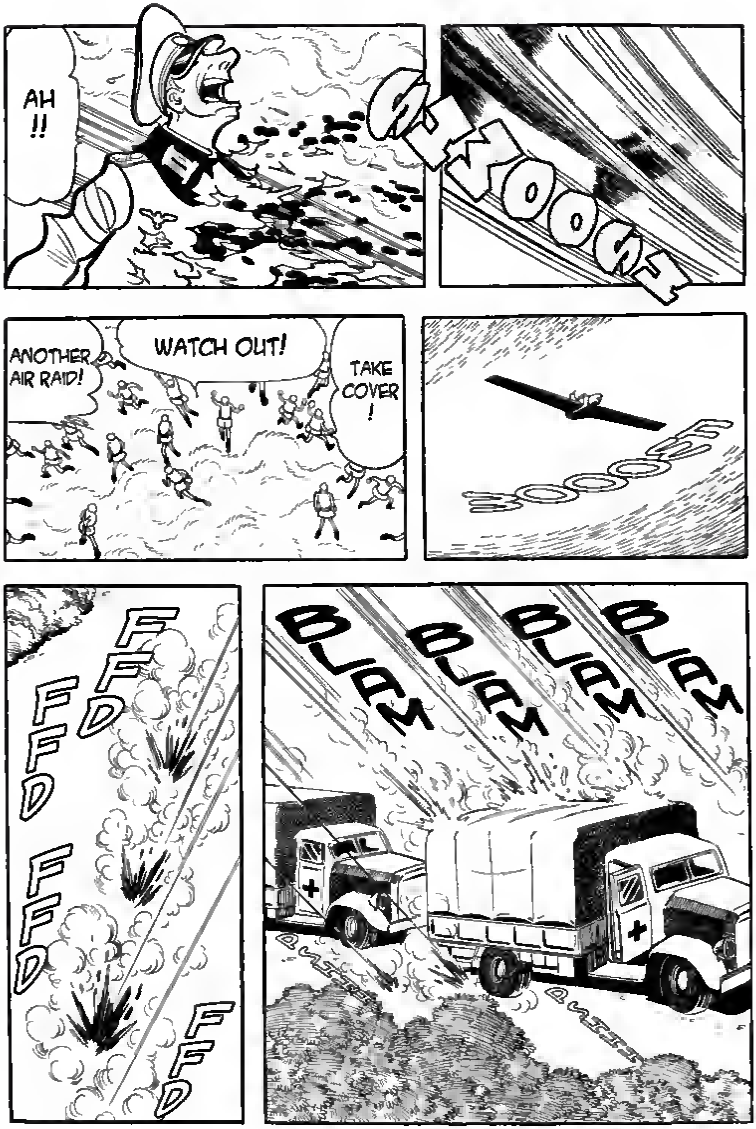


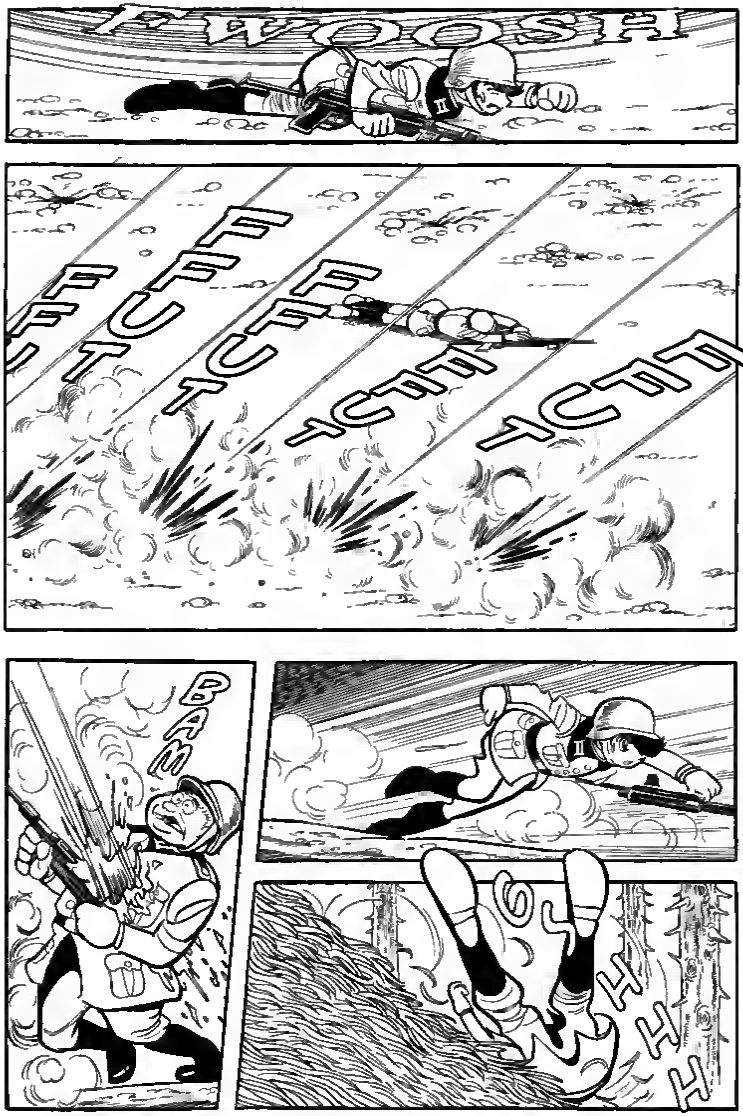




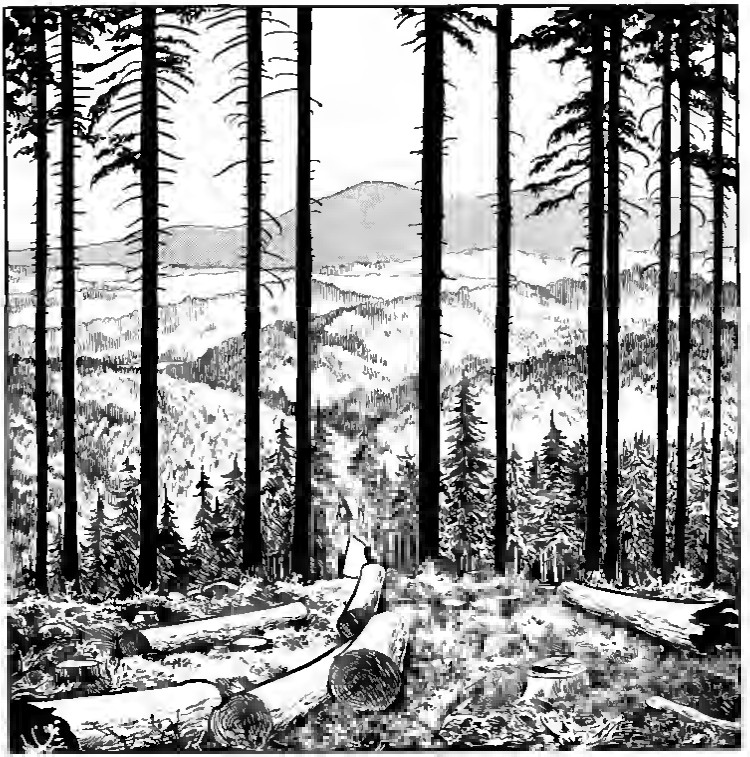
BILLOW
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
ACH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
ALL RIGHT, NOW GO. MAKE A RUN FOR THE BRUSH ON THE RIGHT, AND THEN CROSS THE STREAM. IN THE WOODS BEYOND IT YOU'LL BE SAFE!
BEFORE THE SMOKE CLEARS.
I SAID GO ! NOW !!
WHY DON'T YOU RUN?!
MY PAPA AND MAMA ...

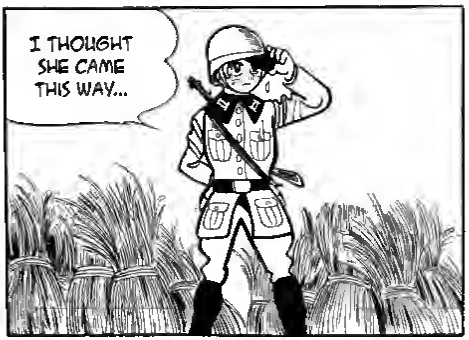
DON'T BE STUPID! SAVE YOURSELF, AT LEAST!
BUT PAPA AND MAMA...
FOOL!
I SAID, GO !!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
ELISE...
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
A PRISONER HAS ESCAPED.
ALL MEN FIRE!!
SHOOT, I...


AH !!
KOOOH
ANOTHER AIR RAID!
WATCH OUT!
TAKE COVER !
SOOOSH
FFD
FFD
FFD
FFD
FFD
FFD
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM


FWOOSH!
RATATAT

?!
ELISE !!
DID YOU MAKE IT?
ELISE !!

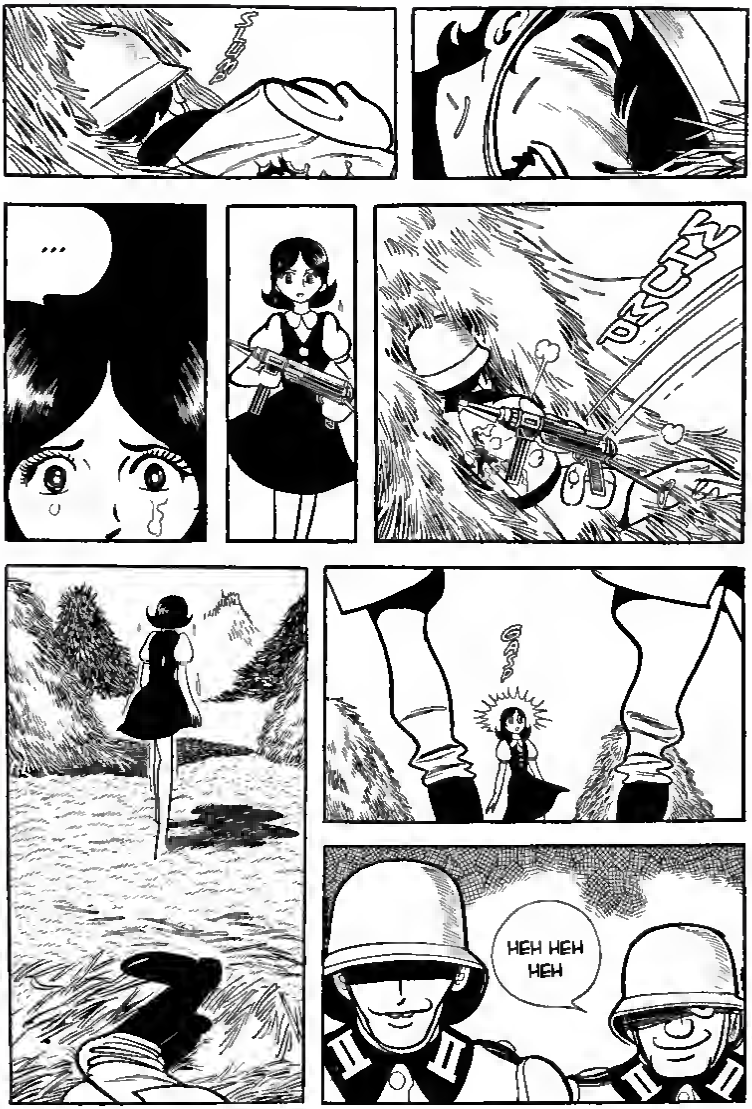


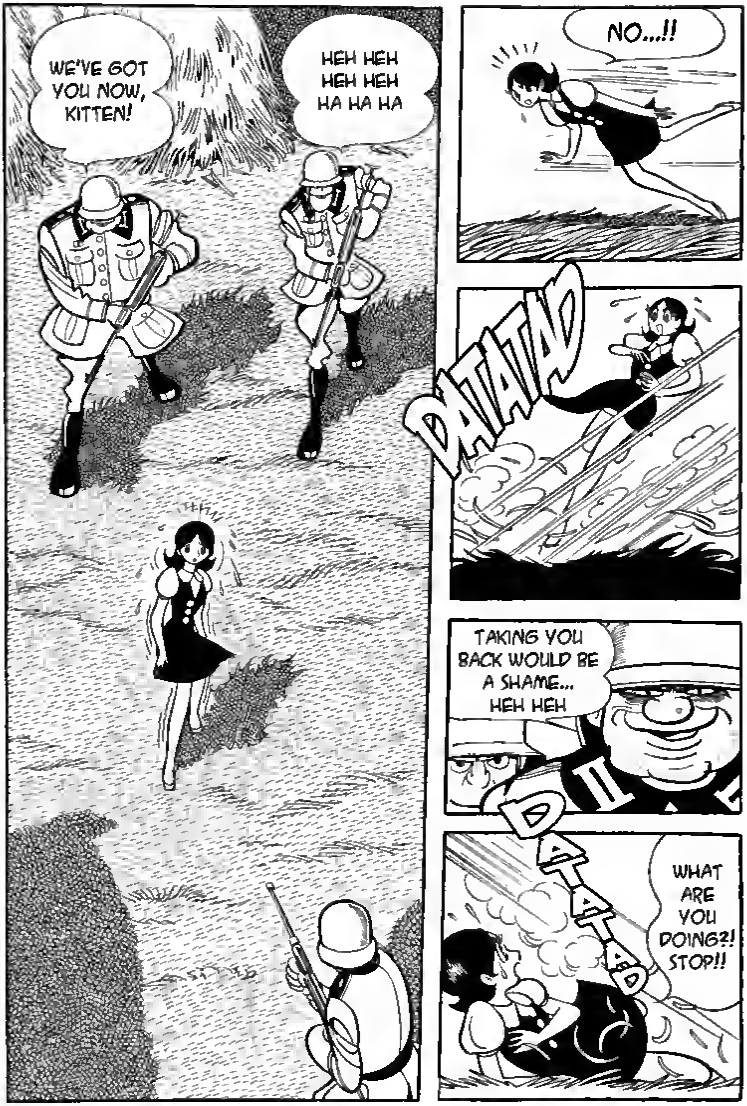

I THOUGHT SHE CAME THIS WAY...

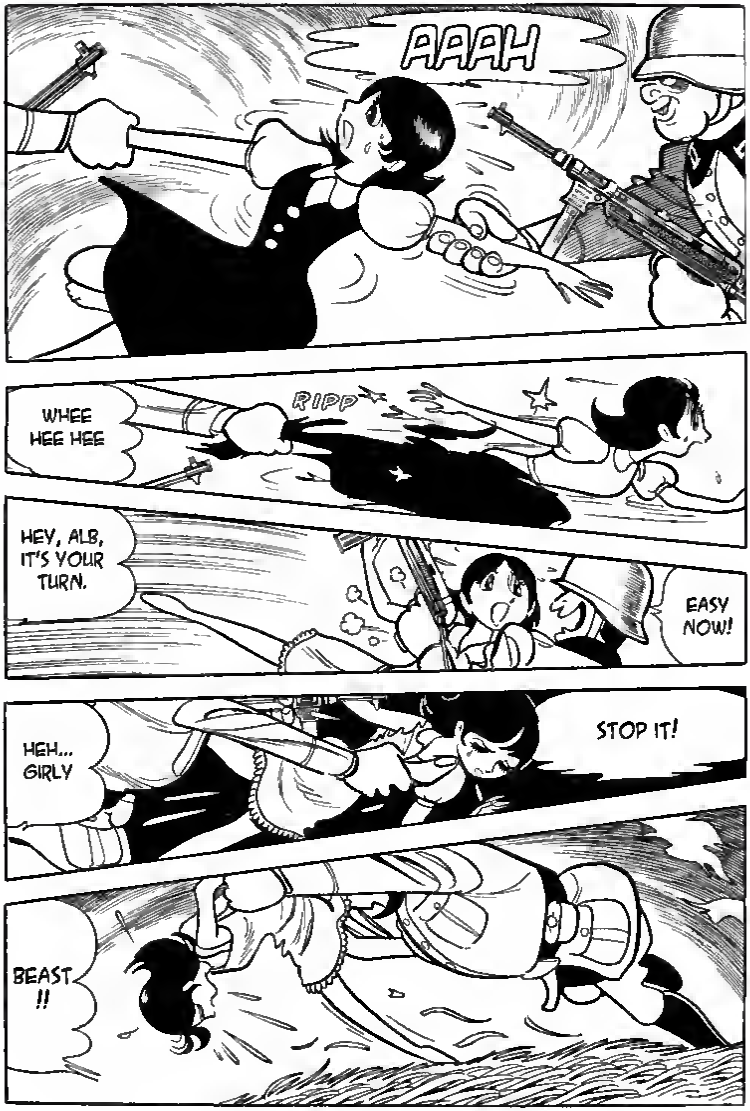
:SIGH:

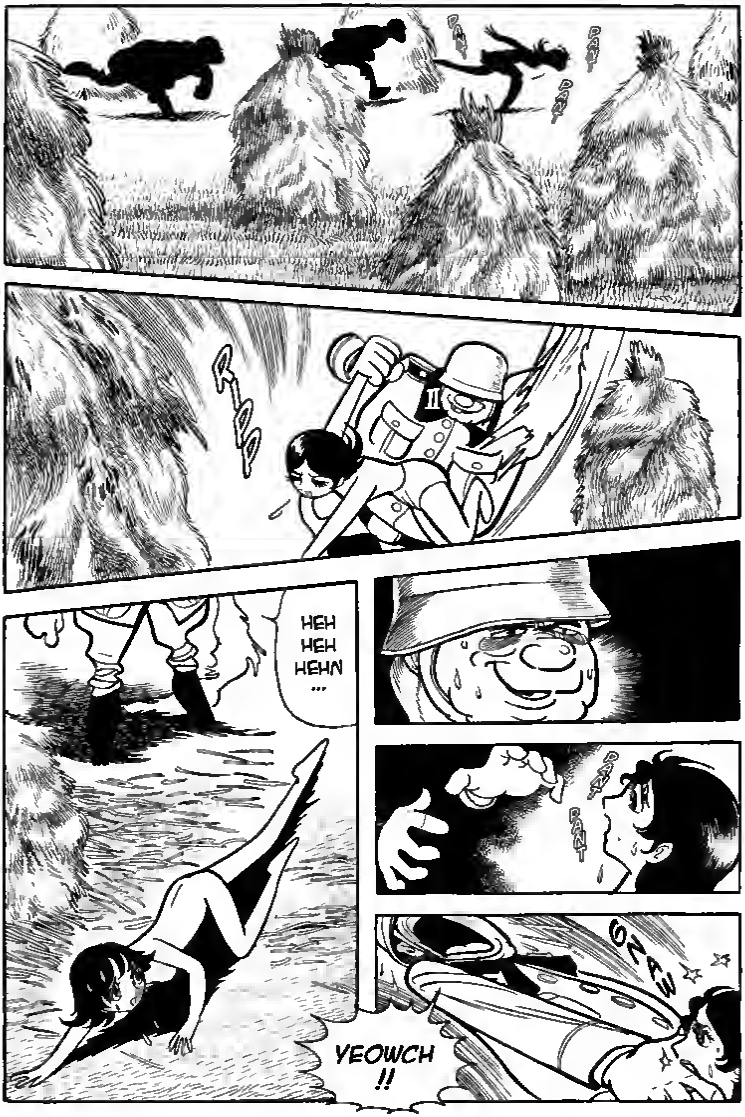
NOD
NOD
ULP
ELISE
DON'T, ELISE. DROP THE GUN!
ELISE ...
GIVE MAMA AND PAPA BACK, YOU MURDERER!
TA TA TA KA

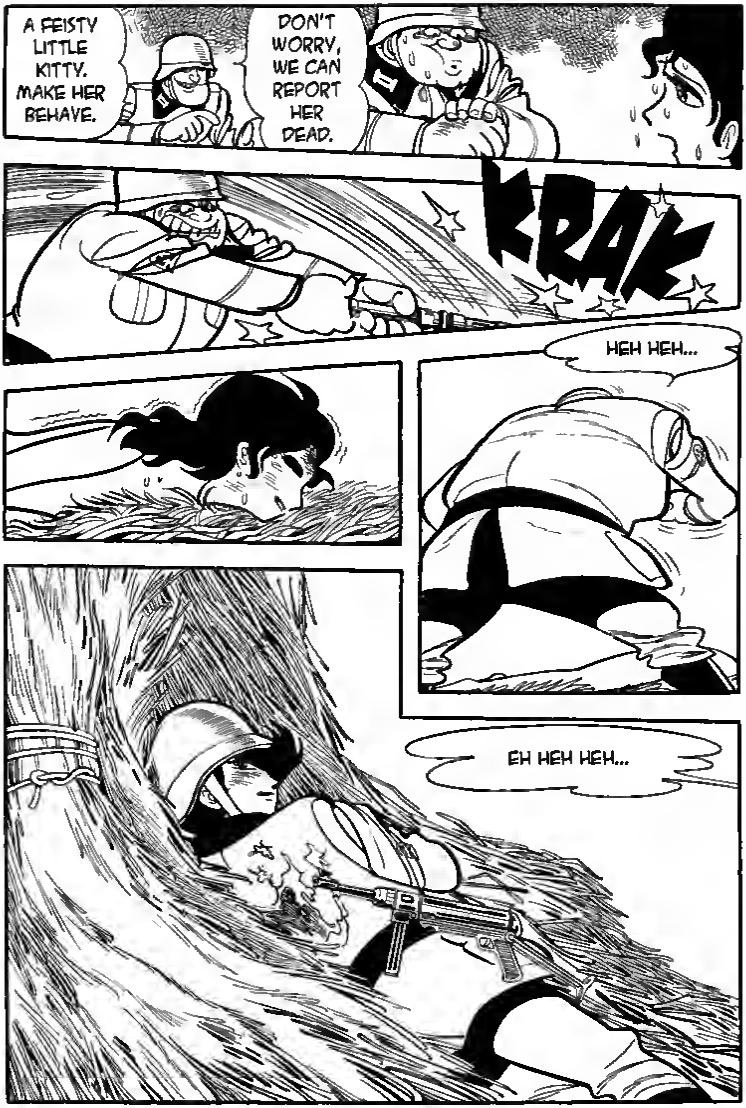
I... I LET YOU... ESCAPE... I CAME SEARCHING... WORRIED....
DON'T LIE!!
IT'S TRUE. BELIEVE ME, PLEASE.
WHY WOULD A GERMAN SOLDIER TELL ME TO RUN AWAY?
AND IF YOU DID... IT WAS TOO SMOKY TO SEE WHO IT WAS.
IT WAS...ME... I SAID IT... I...DON'T...KNOW WHY... BUT...I DID...

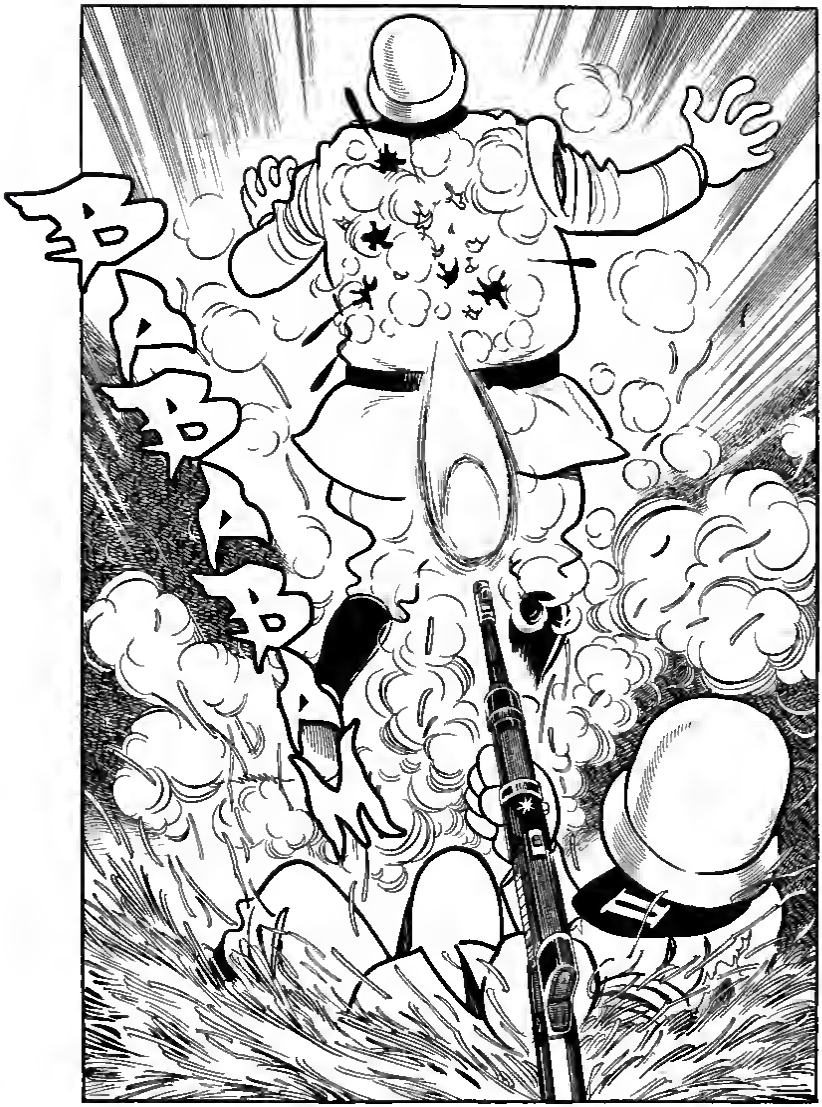

...
DUCK
GASP
HEH HEH HEH

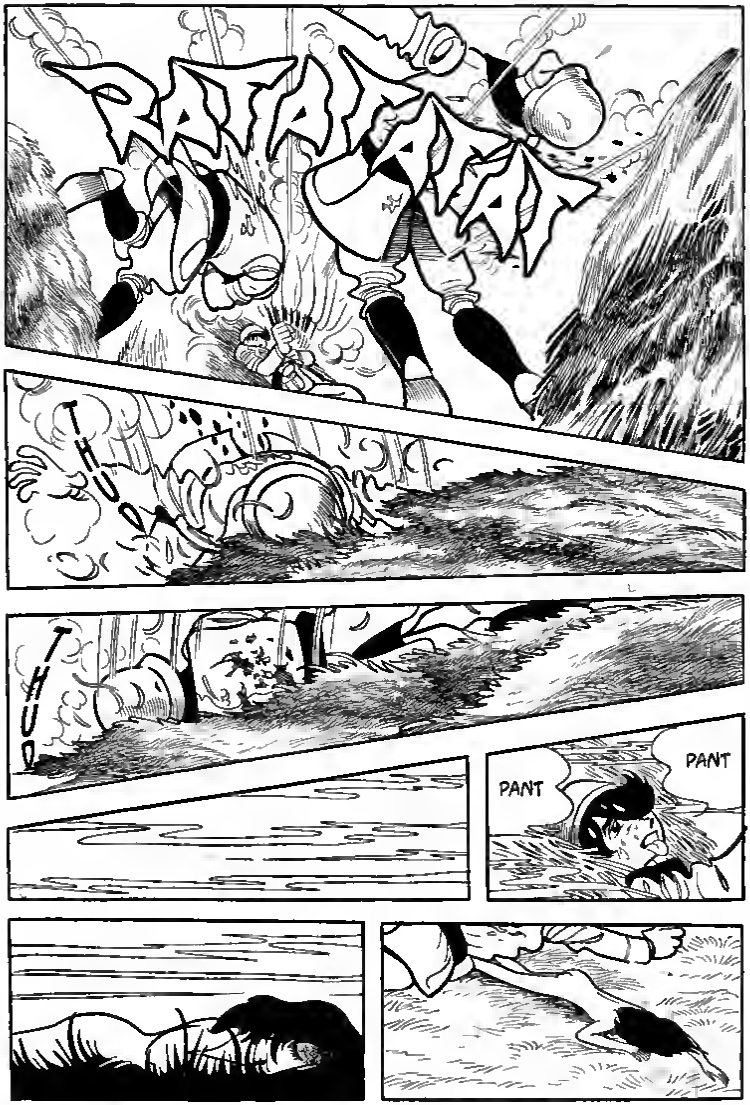

WE'VE GOT YOU NOW, KITTEN!
HEH HEH HEH HEH HA HA HA
NO...!!
DA-TA-TA-D
TAKING YOU BACK WOULD BE A SHAME... HEH HEH
DA-TA-TA-D
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! STOP!!

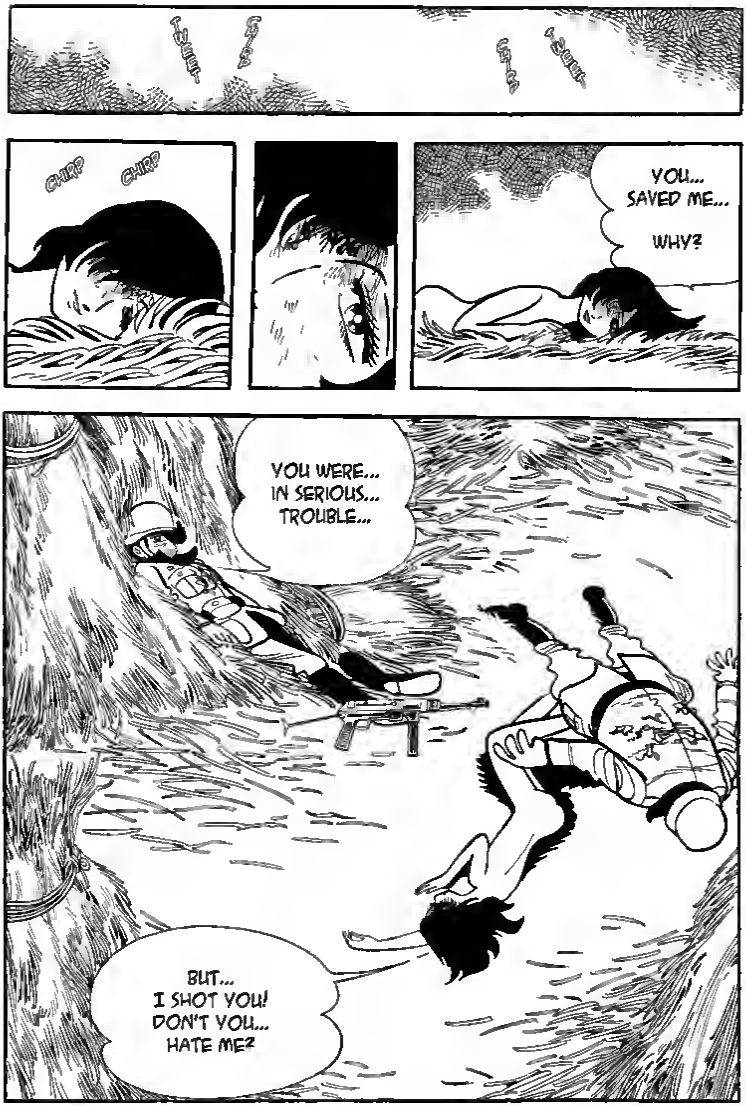

AAAH
WHEE HEE HEE
RIPP
HEY, ALB, IT'S YOUR TURN.
EASY NOW!
HEH... GIRLY
STOP IT!
BEAST !!

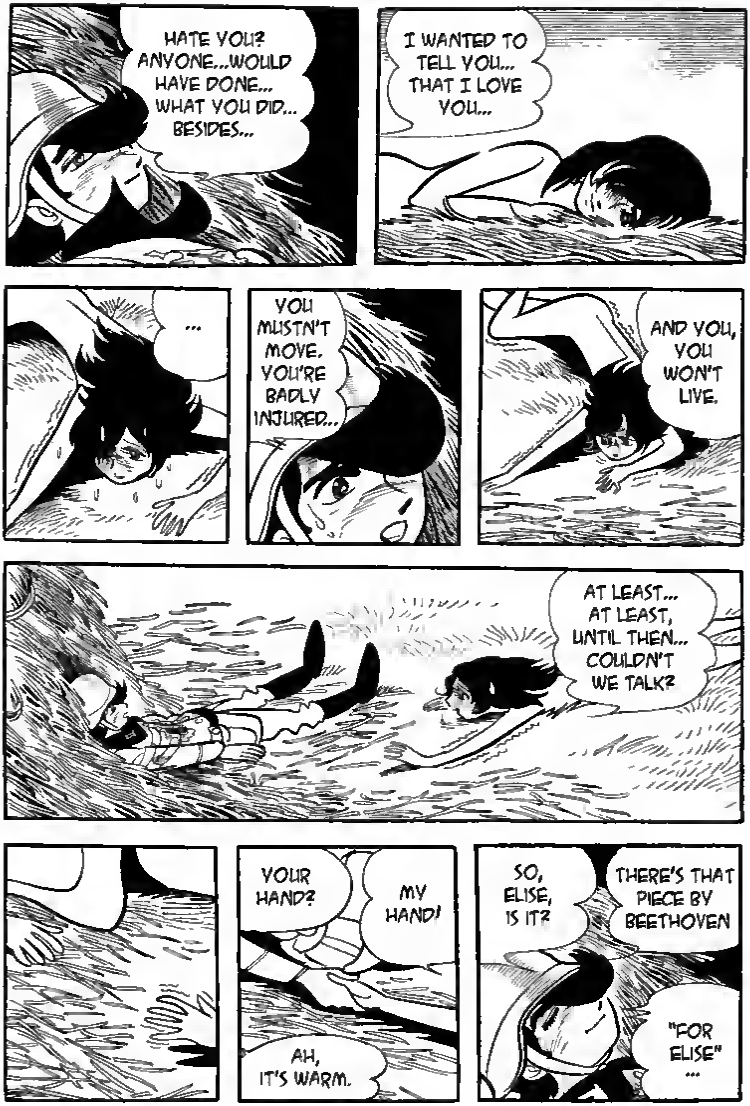

PAT
PAT
RIP
HEH
HEH
HEHN
...
PAT
PAT
YEOWCH
!!

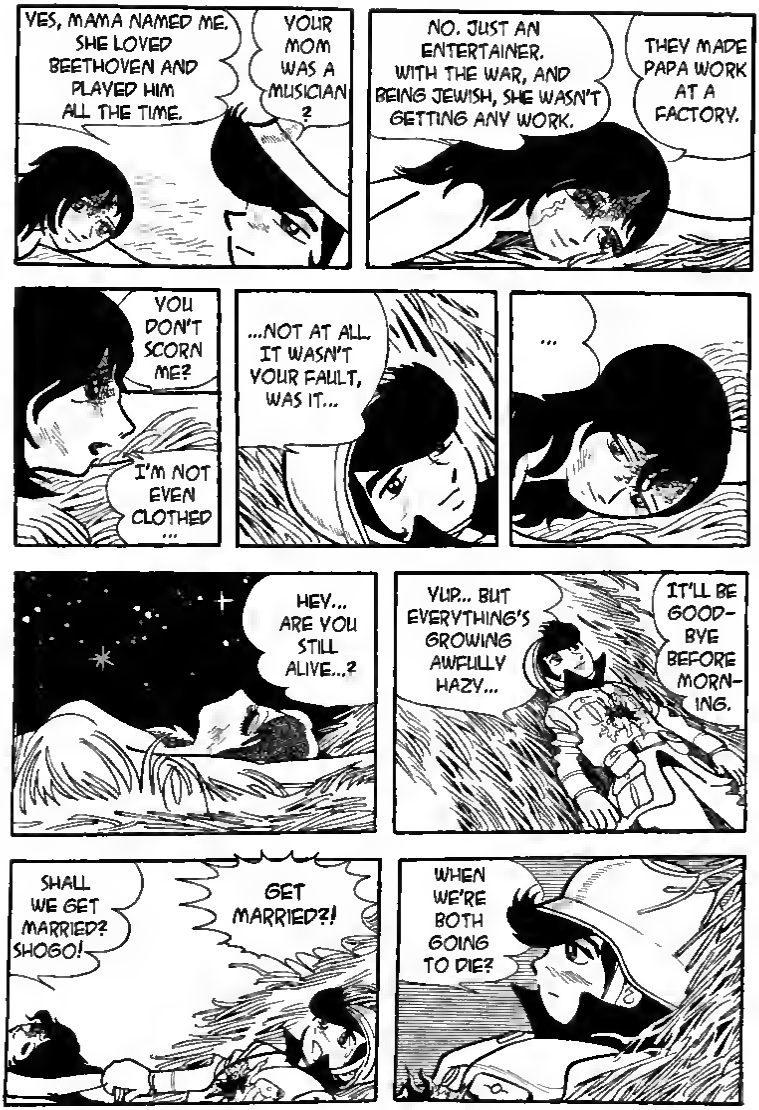

A FEISTY LITTLE KITTY. MAKE HER BEHAVE.
DON'T WORRY, WE CAN REPORT HER DEAD.
KRAK
HEH HEH...
EH HEH HEH...


BABABA

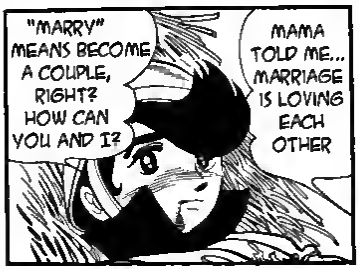

RATATATAT
THUD
THUD
PANT
PANT


CHIRP
CHIRP
YOU...
SAVED ME...
WHY?
YOU WERE...
IN SERIOUS...
TROUBLE...
BUT...
I SHOT YOU!
DON'T YOU...
HATE ME?


HATE YOU? ANYONE...WOULD HAVE DONE... WHAT YOU DID... BESIDES...
I WANTED TO TELL YOU... THAT I LOVE YOU...
...
YOU MUSTN'T MOVE. YOU'RE BADLY INJURED...
AND YOU, YOU WON'T LIVE.
AT LEAST... AT LEAST, UNTIL THEN... COULDN'T WE TALK?
YOUR HAND?
MY HAND!
AH, IT'S WARM.
SO, ELISE, IS IT?
THERE'S THAT PIECE BY BEETHOVEN
"FOR ELISE" ...


YES, MAMA NAMED ME. SHE LOVED BEETHOVEN AND PLAYED HIM ALL THE TIME.
YOUR MOM WAS A MUSICIAN?
NO. JUST AN ENTERTAINER. WITH THE WAR, AND BEING JEWISH, SHE WASN'T GETTING ANY WORK.
THEY MADE PAPA WORK AT A FACTORY.
YOU DON'T SCORN ME?
I'M NOT EVEN CLOTHED...
...NOT AT ALL. IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT, WAS IT...
...
HEY... ARE YOU STILL ALIVE...?
YUP... BUT EVERYTHING'S GROWING AWFULLY HAZY...
IT'LL BE GOOD-BYE BEFORE MORNING.
SHALL WE GET MARRIED? SHOGO!
GET MARRIED?!
WHEN WE'RE BOTH GOING TO DIE?

I LOVE YOU, SO I WANT TO MARRY YOU.
IS THAT WRONG?
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO, ONCE WE'RE DEAD.

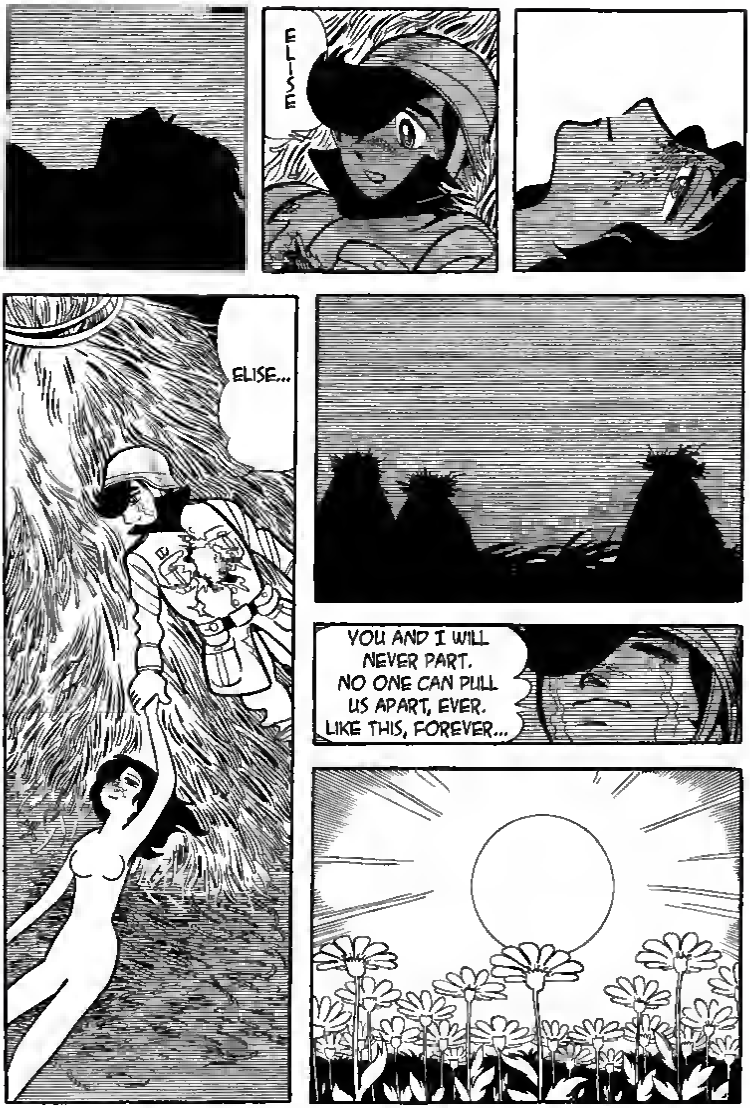

"MARRY" MEANS BECOME A COUPLE, RIGHT? HOW CAN YOU AND I?
MAMA TOLD ME... MARRIAGE IS LOVING EACH OTHER

AND UNITING A PART OF YOUR BODIES.

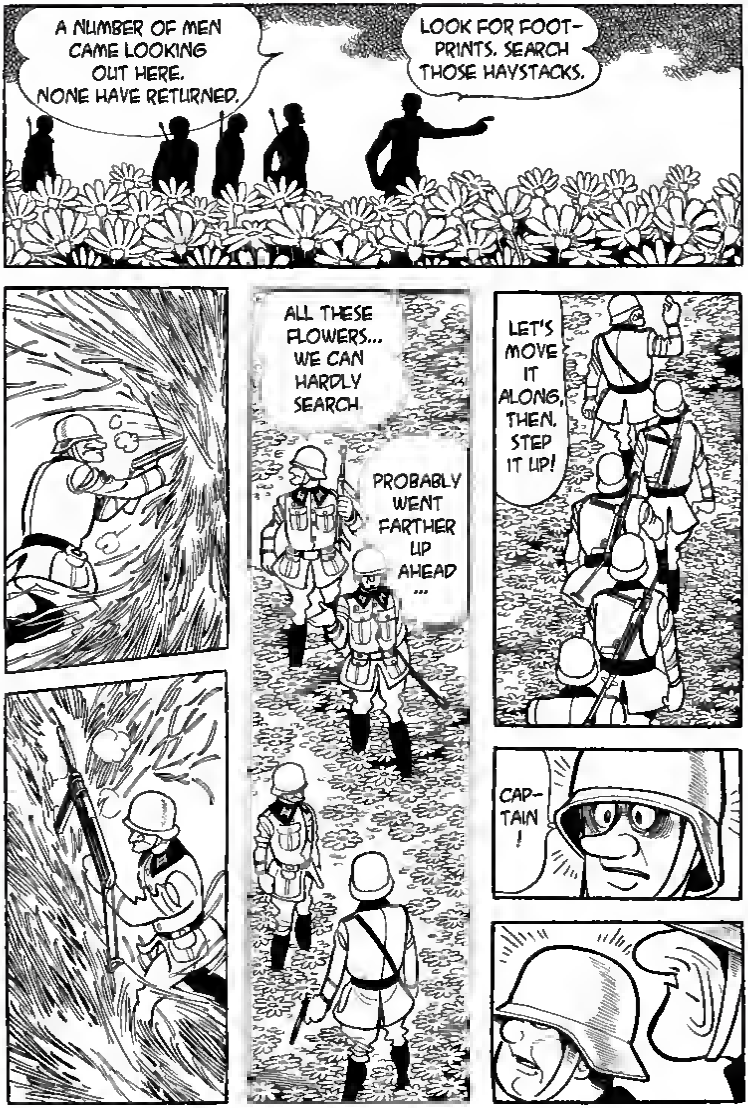
DID YOU SAY "UNITE"?!
YOU KNOW, CONNECT.

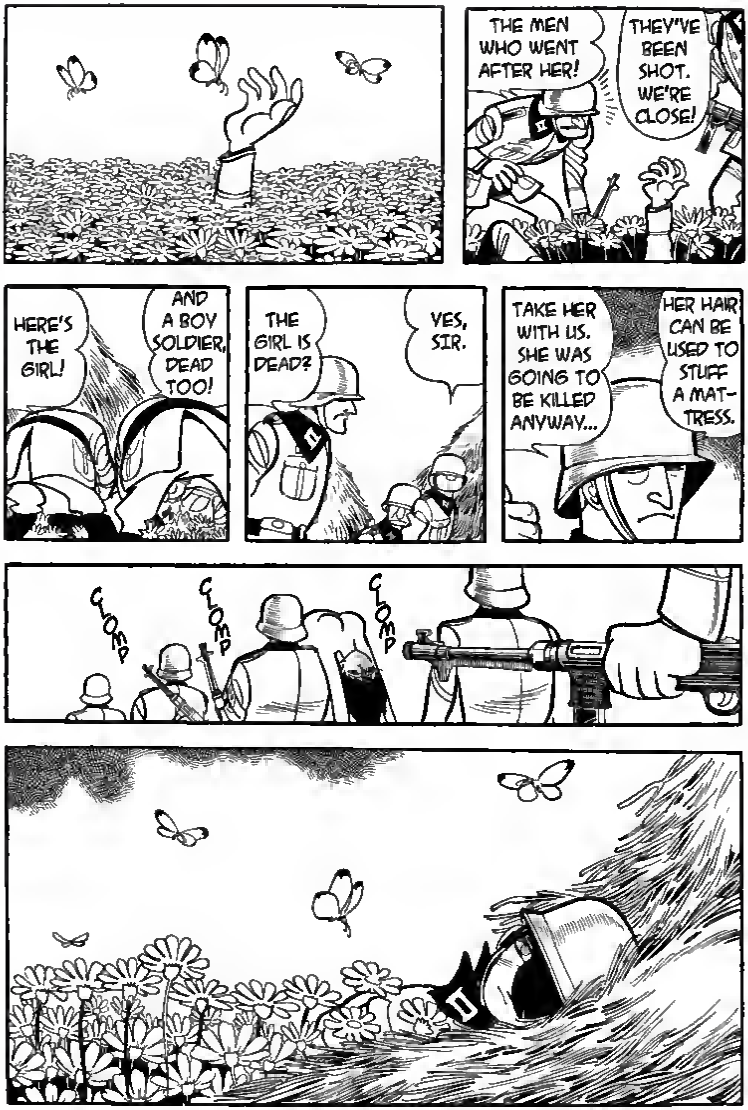
SHOGO, SHOGO... WILL YOU LOVE ME? TO THE VERY END?
YEAH... OF COURSE...

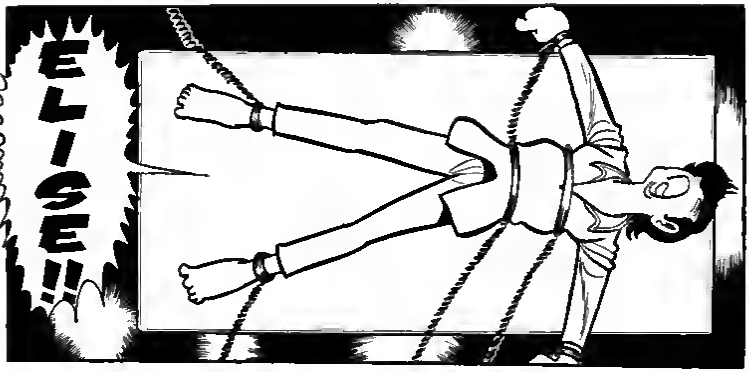
WILL HANDS DO?
ANY PART WILL DO
SINCE GOD WILLS IT.

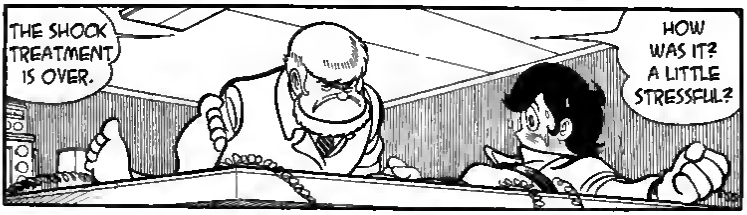

ELISE
ELISE...
YOU AND I WILL NEVER PART. NO ONE CAN PULL US APART, EVER. LIKE THIS, FOREVER...

CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP


A NUMBER OF MEN CAME LOOKING OUT HERE. NONE HAVE RETURNED.
LOOK FOR FOOT-PRINTS. SEARCH THOSE HAYSTACKS.
ALL THESE FLOWERS... WE CAN HARDLY SEARCH.
PROBABLY WENT FARTHER UP AHEAD ...
LET'S MOVE IT ALONG, THEN. STEP IT UP!
CAP-TAIN !


THE MEN WHO WENT AFTER HER!
THEY'VE BEEN SHOT. WE'RE CLOSE!
HERE'S THE GIRL!
AND A BOY SOLDIER, DEAD TOO!
THE GIRL IS DEAD?
YES, SIR.
TAKE HER WITH US. SHE WAS GOING TO BE KILLED ANYWAY...
HER HAIR CAN BE USED TO STUFF A MATTRESS.
CLOMP
CLOMP
CLOMP


ELISE!!


THE SHOCK TREATMENT IS OVER.
HOW WAS IT? A LITTLE STRESSFUL?

WHERE AM I ?!
YOU'RE IN THE HOSPITAL, SHOGO.

HOW LONG WAS I ASLEEP?
ASLEEP? YOU FAINTED FOR JUST A FEW SECONDS!

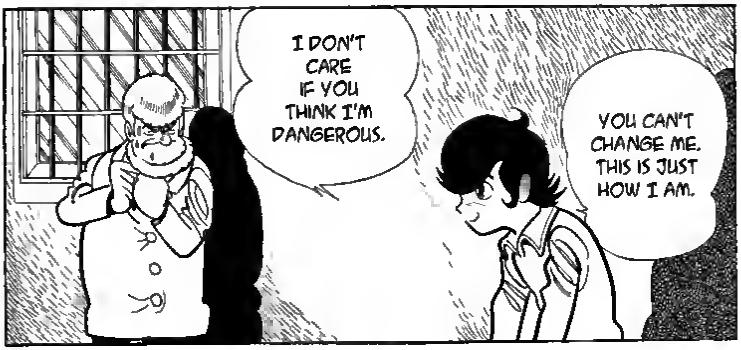
NOW, GET DOWN FROM THERE. TOMORROW WE'LL TRY SOMETHING ELSE.

BRING BACK ELISE! YOU... KIDNAPPER!

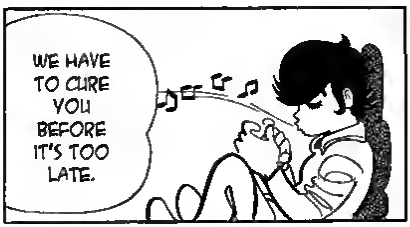
I TOLD YOU HE WAS DANGEROUS.
HOW DARE YOU TEAR US APART!
SOK!
BETTER PUT HIM IN SOLITARY.
LET ME GO!!
CALM DOWN AND GET SOME REST.
BASTARDS! MAKING ME FEEL LIKE THIS...
STUPID!!

GOOD MORNING, SHOGO!
HM?
HOW ARE YOU TODAY?
HM-MM?
MMM GNOM GNOM SMACK SMACK
ATTA BOY, YOU'VE A GREAT APPETITE.
I FEEL GREAT, DOCTOR!
THAT'S GOOD.

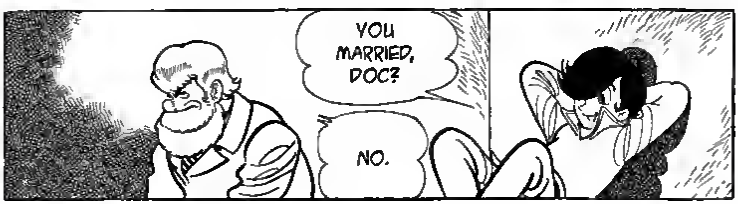
I WANTED TO STRANGLE YOU LAST NIGHT, THOUGH.
I'M SORRY, WE WON'T USE SUCH HARSH THERAPY FOR THE TIME BEING.
THAT'S NOT WHAT MADE ME ANGRY.
YOU MADE ME HAVE A STRANGE DREAM.
WHAT SORT OF DREAM ?
IF YOU EVER MAKE ME HAVE A DREAM LIKE THAT AGAIN, I'LL KILL YOU, DOC!
WHEN YOU ATTACKED ME, YOU WERE SHOUTING SOMETHING ABOUT "ELISE"...
LET GO!
AS LONG AS YOU GET THE MESSAGE, DOC...


I DON'T CARE IF YOU THINK I'M DANGEROUS.
YOU CAN'T CHANGE ME. THIS IS JUST HOW I AM.

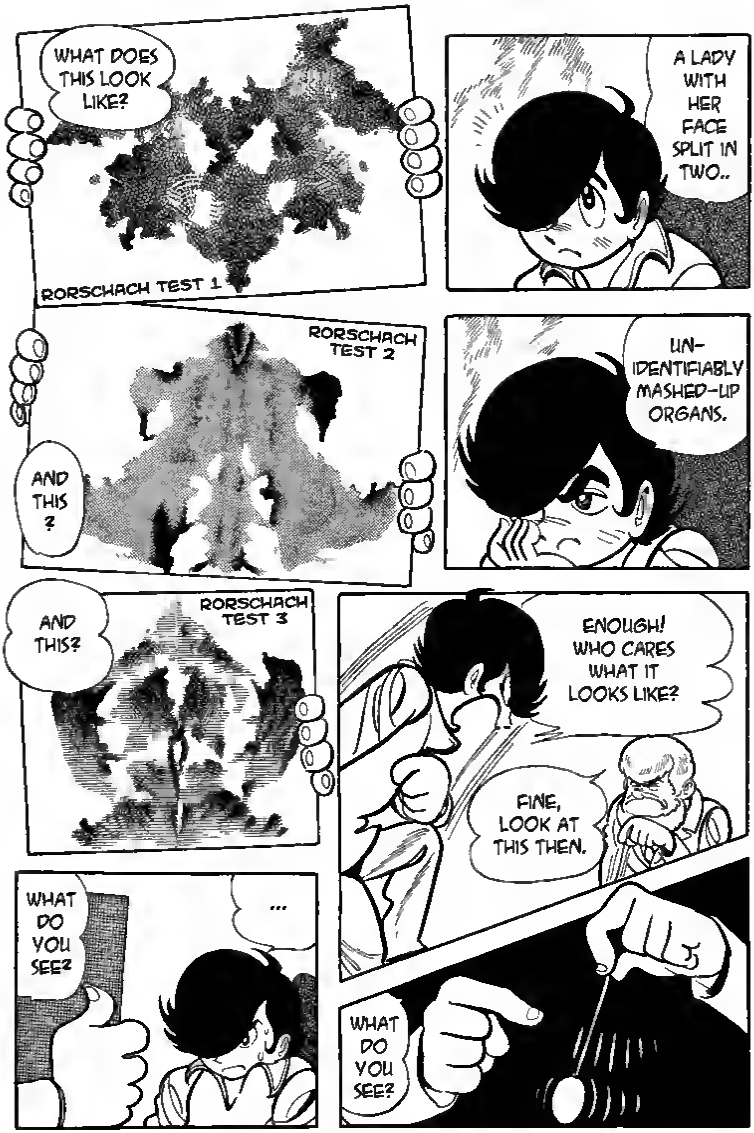
BUT SHOGO, YOU HAVE A HABIT OF IMPULSIVELY KILLING ANIMALS.


WE HAVE TO CURE YOU BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

EVEN I SOMETIMES THINK THAT BIRDS AND SQUIRRELS ARE CUTE.
BUT WHEN I SEE THE MALES AND FEMALES GETTING ALL FRIENDLY...
IT MAKES ME GO CRAZY WITH DISGUST!

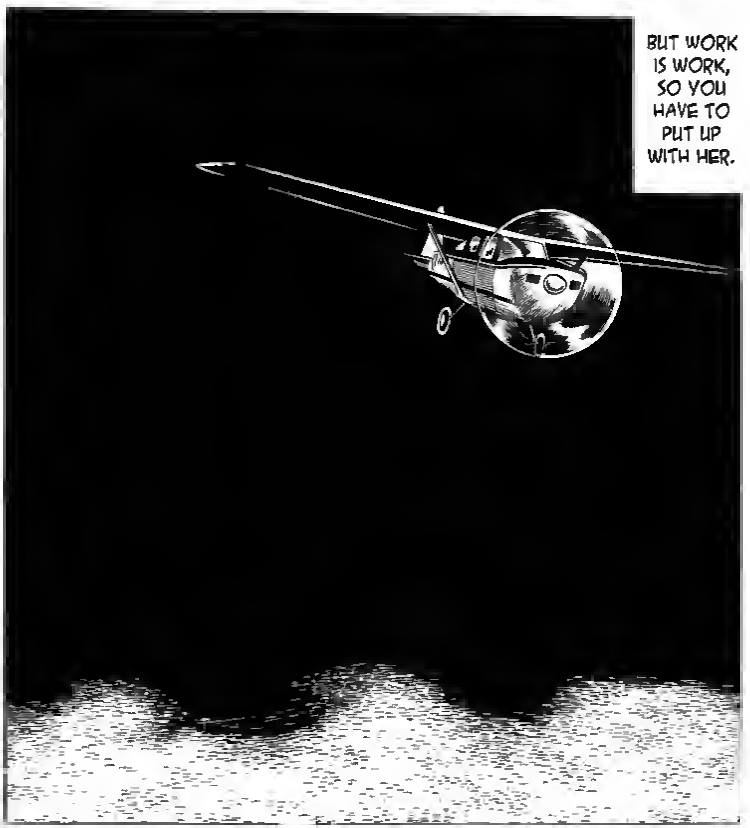

YOU MARRIED, DOC?
NO.

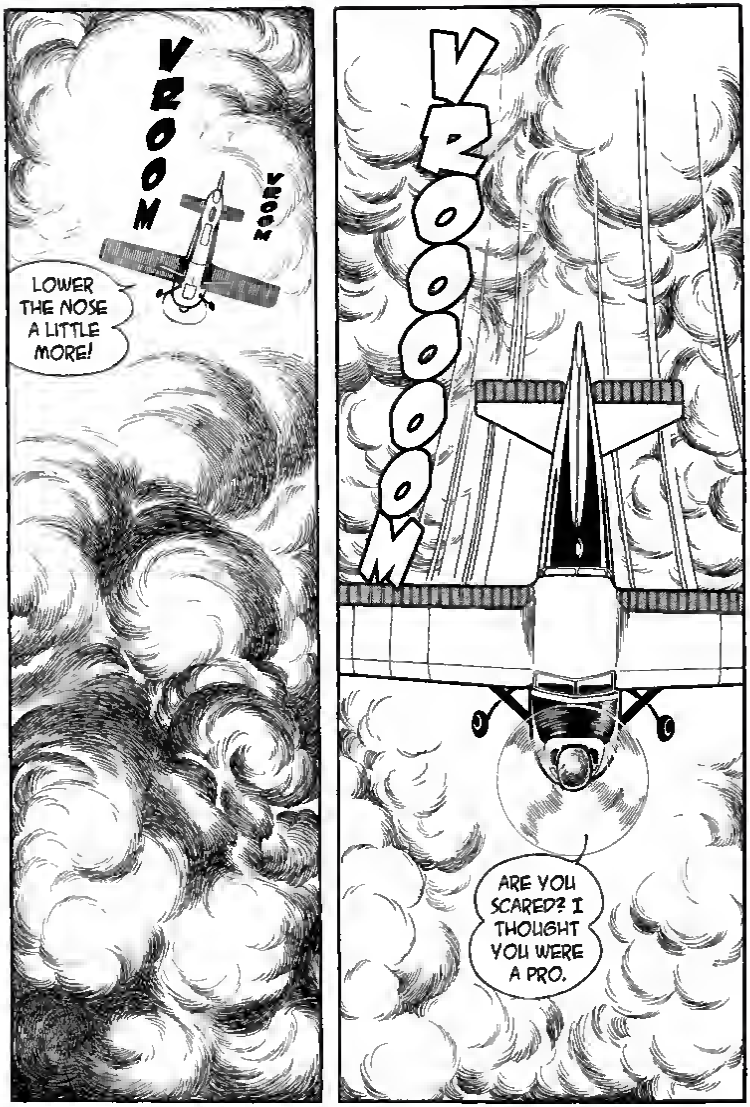
DIVORCED?
NO, I NEVER MARRIED.
GOT DUMPED? OR JUST NO GOOD WITH THE LADIES?
I GUESS WITH THAT GORILLA FACE OF YOURS...
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR BREATH TRYING TO GET ME ANGRY.
THAT'S NOT HOW IT WAS.
WE WANTED TO MARRY, BUT COULDN'T.
AH, SOUNDS COMPLI-CATED.
GRRR
WE WERE IN LOVE, BUT GOT TORN APART BEFORE WE COULD MARRY.
WHY NOT?
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?!
I HAVE A TEST FOR YOU. WHAT DO YOU SEE IN THIS PICTURE?
HER PARENTS TOLD ME THEY'D NEVER LET HER MARRY A MAN LIKE ME.


WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE?
RORSCHACH TEST 1
A LADY WITH HER FACE SPLIT IN TWO..
RORSCHACH TEST 2
AND THIS ?
UN-IDENTIFIABLY MASHED-UP ORGANS.
AND THIS?
RORSCHACH TEST 3
ENOUGH! WHO CARES WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE?
FINE, LOOK AT THIS THEN.
WHAT DO YOU SEE?
...
WHAT DO YOU SEE?

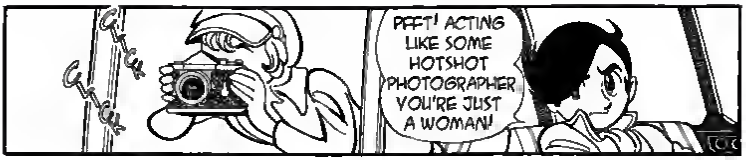
...
EVERYTHING IS GETTING DARKER, DARKER, DARKER...
YOU'RE FLYING A PLANE. YOU'RE AN EXPERIENCED PILOT.
WATCH OUT... YOU'RE ROLLING TO THE LEFT. IT'S A SMALL PLANE, SO BE CAREFUL.
NOW YOU'RE BANKING RIGHT. THAT'S GOOD, LEAN YOUR UPPER BODY... TO THE LEFT... LEFT...
YOU'VE BEEN HIRED BY A NEWSPAPER TO INVESTIGATE AN UNDERWATER VOLCANIC ERUPTION SOUTH OF MYOJIN REEF.
THERE'S A PHOTO-GRAPHER ON BOARD.

A WOMAN PHOTO-GRAPHER!
WHAT'S MORE, SHE'S THE TYPE YOU HATE: ARTSY-FARTSY, STUCK UP BECAUSE SHE GRADUATED FROM A TOP SCHOOL, AND SELF-CENTERED!


BUT WORK IS WORK, SO YOU HAVE TO PUT UP WITH HER.


VROOM
ROAR
LOWER THE NOSE A LITTLE MORE!
VROOOOOOM
ARE YOU SCARED? I THOUGHT YOU WERE A PRO.

SWOOSH
RUNNING AWAY? HEE HEE...
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
AFRAID TO DIE?
I'M NOT HERE TO DO AEROBATICS.
ZOOM
I'M PAYING YOU 100,000 YEN! YOU KNOW I'M NOT HERE TO TAKE JUST ANY OLD PHOTOS.


PFFT! ACTING LIKE SOME HOTSHOT PHOTOGRAPHER YOU'RE JUST A WOMAN!

WELL, I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR OVER FIVE YEARS!

AN OLD HAG.

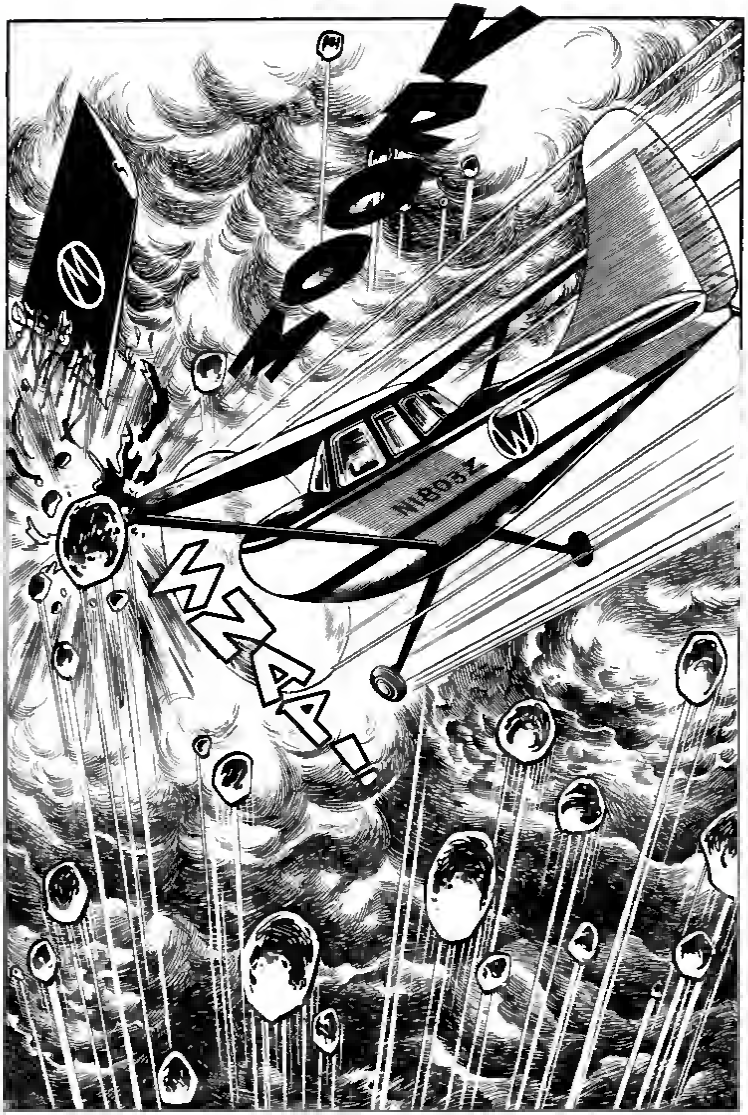
I'M ONLY 23, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW!

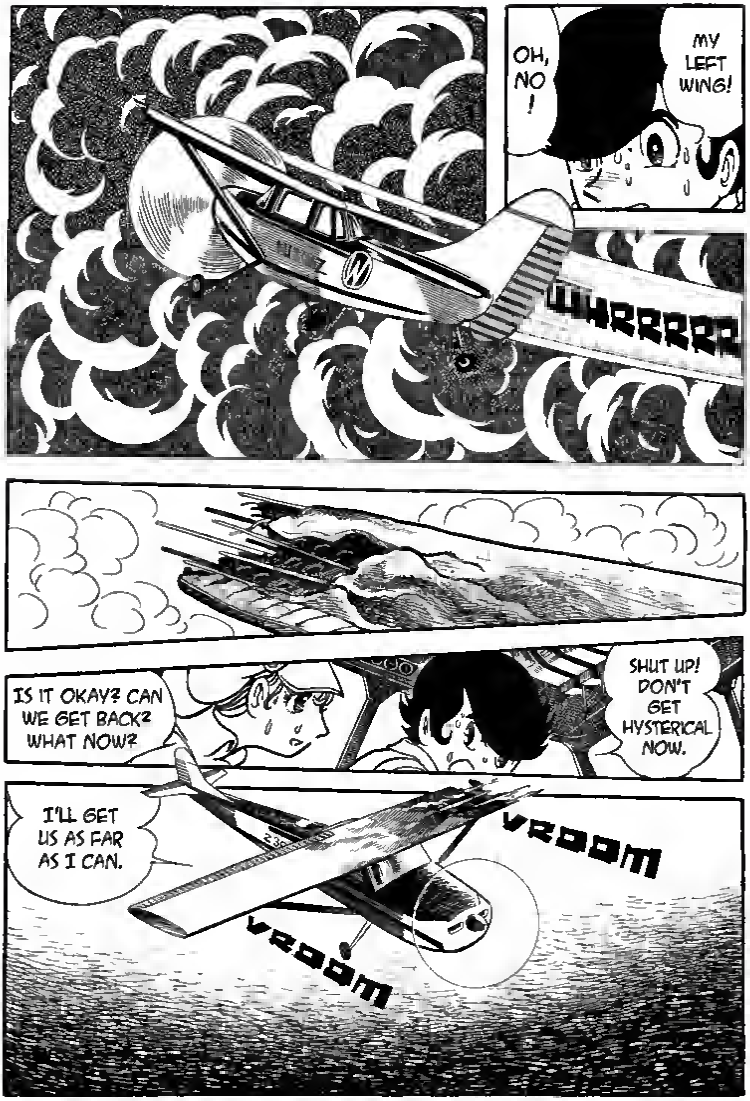
QUIT SHAKING THE PLANE. YOUR BUTT'S TOO BIG!

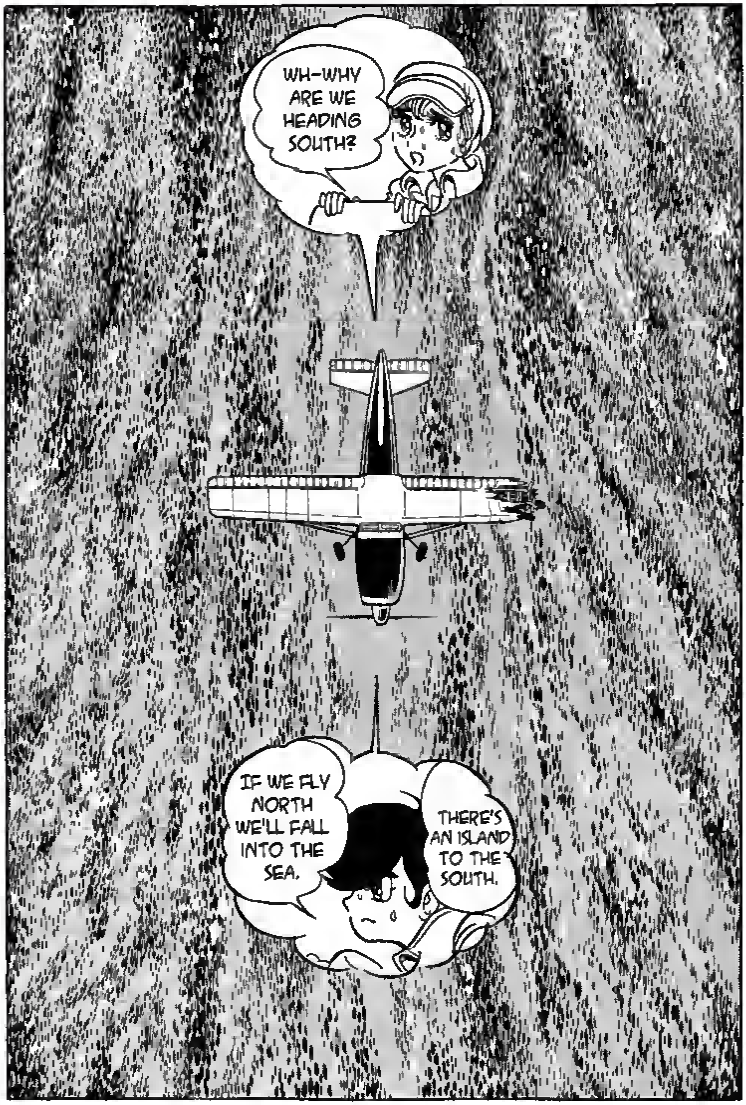
YOU'RE GETTING PAID TO FLY! QUIT GRUM-BLING!

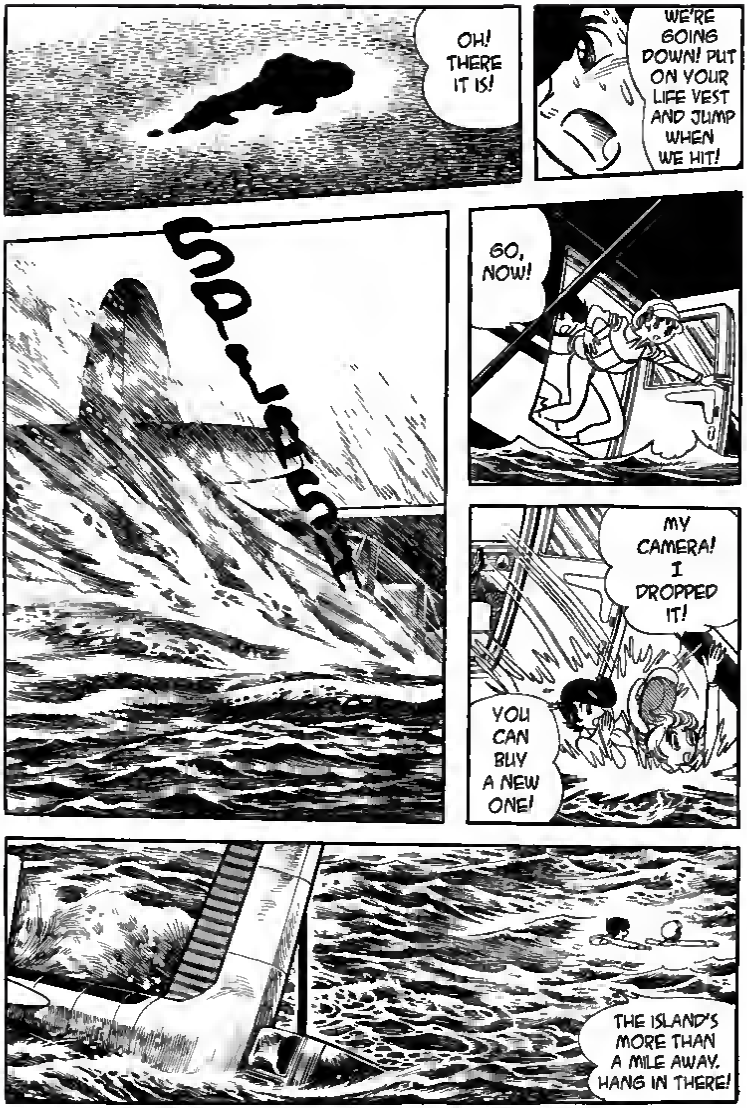
ANOTHER EXPLOSION.

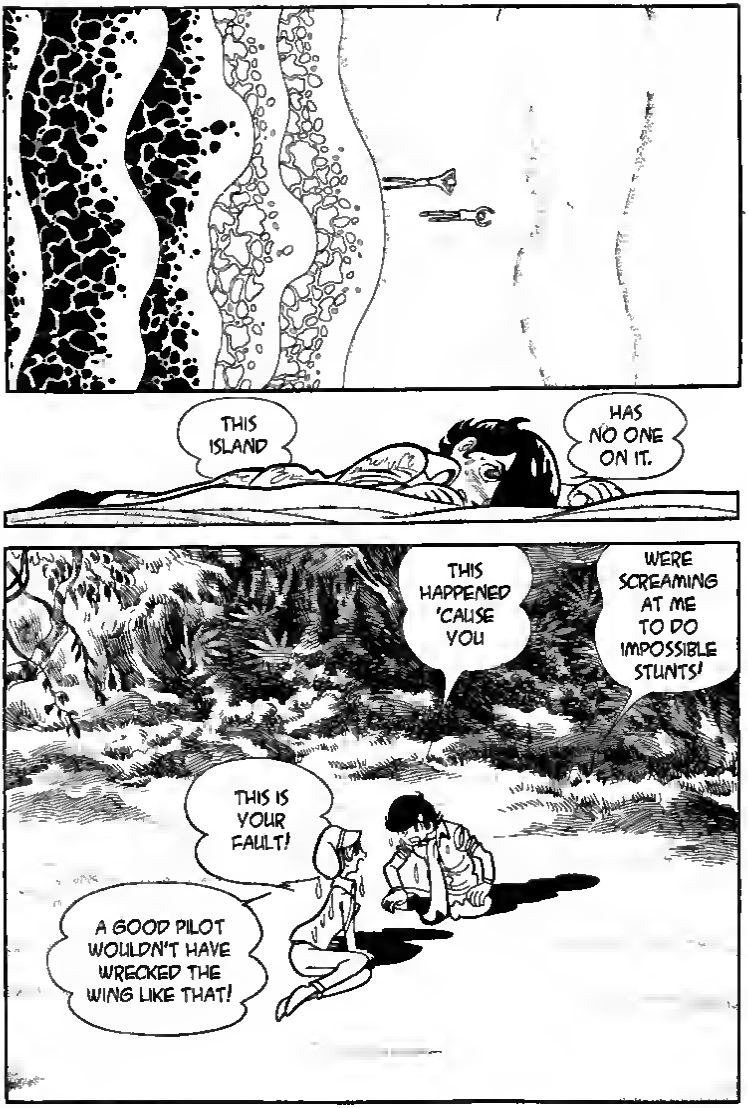
DIVE TOWARD IT. ONE MORE SHOT!
DO AS I SAY!
FINE, BUT I WARNED YOU!

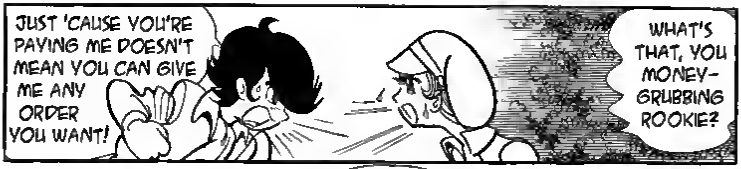

GRAOM
NZAA!


OH, NO!
MY LEFT WING!
WHRRRR
IS IT OKAY? CAN WE GET BACK? WHAT NOW?
SHUT UP! DON'T GET HYSTERICAL NOW.
I'LL GET US AS FAR AS I CAN.
VROOM
VROOM

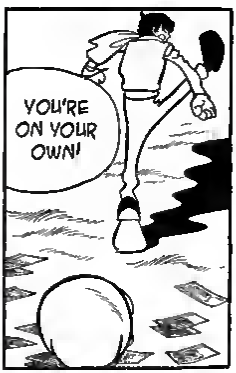

WH-WHY ARE WE HEADING SOUTH?
IF WE FLY NORTH WE'LL FALL INTO THE SEA.
THERE'S AN ISLAND TO THE SOUTH.


OH! THERE IT IS!
WE'RE GOING DOWN! PUT ON YOUR LIFE VEST AND JUMP WHEN WE HIT!
SQUEEE


THIS ISLAND
HAS NO ONE ON IT.
THIS HAPPENED 'CAUSE YOU
WERE SCREAMING AT ME TO DO IMPOSSIBLE STUNTS!
THIS IS YOUR FAULT!
A GOOD PILOT WOULDN'T HAVE WRECKED THE WING LIKE THAT!

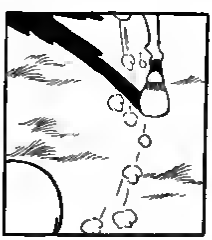

JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE PAYING ME DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN GIVE ME ANY ORDER YOU WANT!
WHAT'S THAT, YOU MONEY-GRUBBING ROOKIE?

IF THE MONEY MEANS THAT MUCH TO YOU...
HERE, TAKE IT ALL BACK!

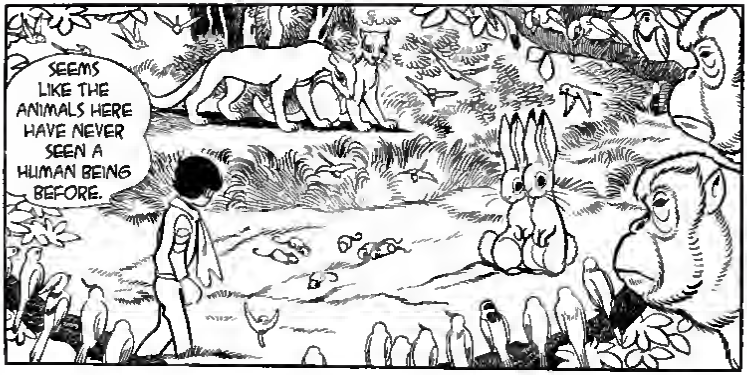

YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN!

OOPS ...

I THREW MY OWN MONEY TOO.



SEE IF I EVER TALK TO HER AGAIN.


SEEMS LIKE THE ANIMALS HERE HAVE NEVER SEEN A HUMAN BEING BEFORE.

?
I CAN COME RIGHT UP TO THEM AND THEY DON'T SCARE!

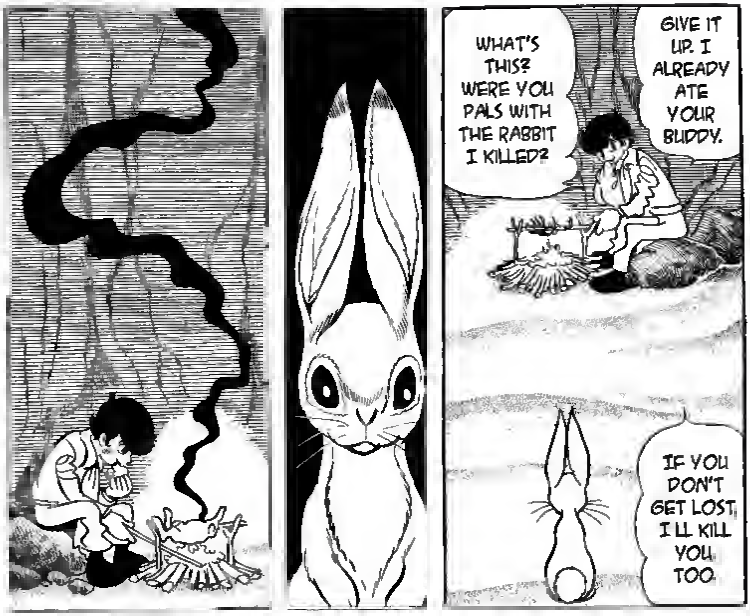
MAKES IT THAT MUCH EASIER TO CATCH AND EAT THEM.

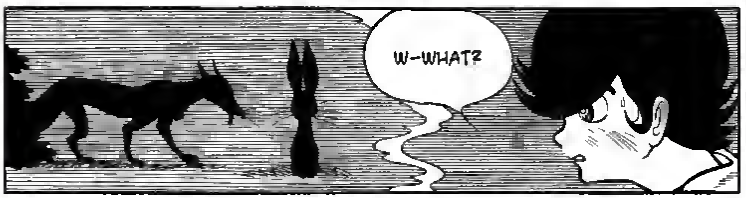
?

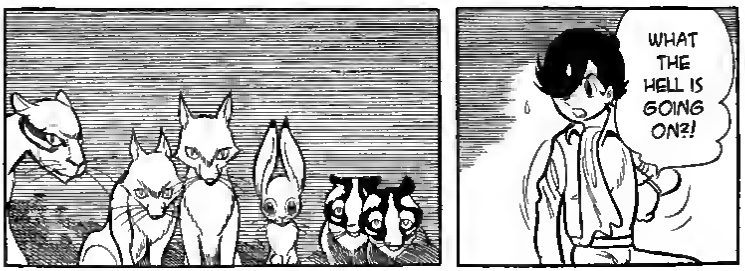
TAKE THAT!
CRACK

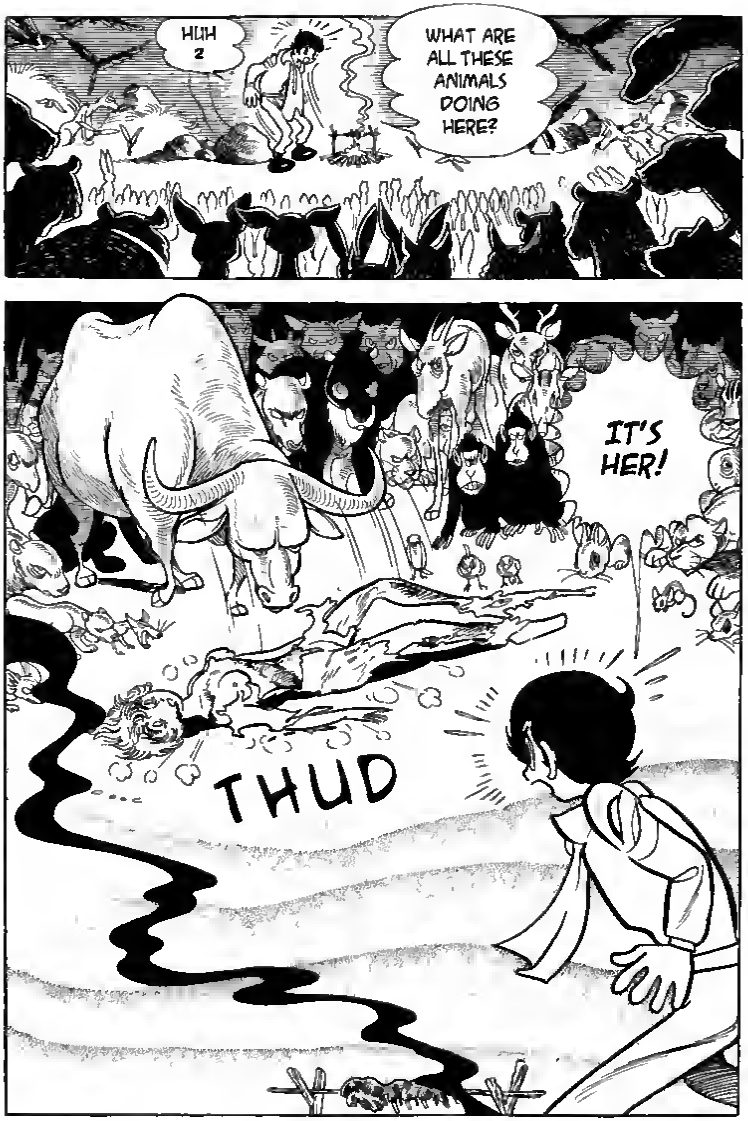
HA HA HA! EASY AS PIE!

LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE PLENTY OF FOOD FOR A WHILE...

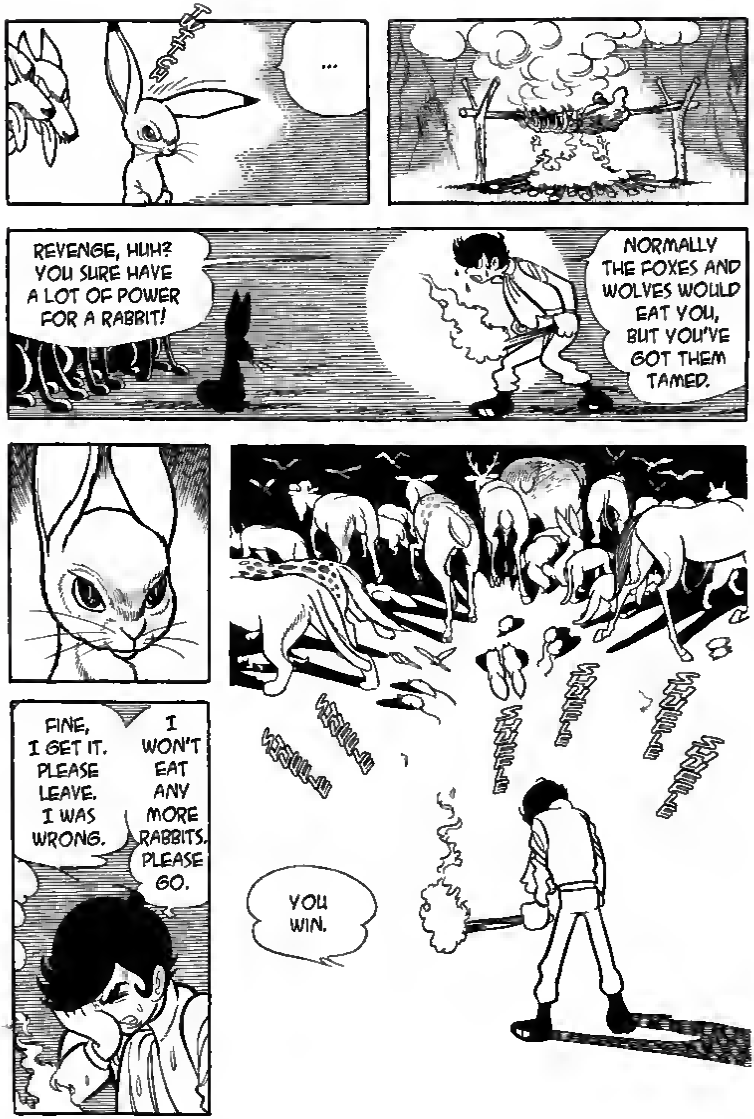

WHAT'S THIS? WERE YOU PALS WITH THE RABBIT I KILLED?
GIVE IT UP. I ALREADY ATE YOUR BUDDY.
IF YOU DON'T GET LOST, I'LL KILL YOU, TOO.

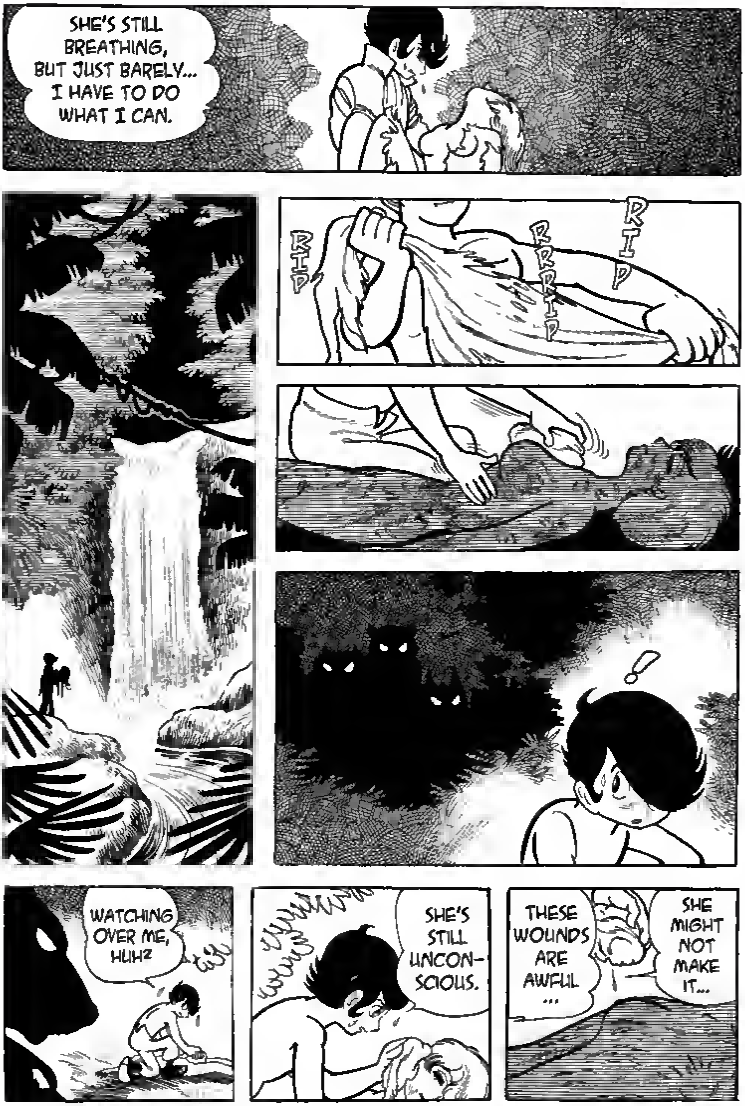

W-WHAT?


WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!


HUH ?
WHAT ARE ALL THESE ANIMALS DOING HERE?
IT'S HER!
THUD

TWITCH
TWITCH
SHE... SHE'S HALF DEAD!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HER?
B-BUT WHY? WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?
YOU... YOU PUT THEM UP TO THIS, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU! WHAT, AM I NEXT?


...
REVENGE, HUH? YOU SURE HAVE A LOT OF POWER FOR A RABBIT!
NORMALLY THE FOXES AND WOLVES WOULD EAT YOU, BUT YOU'VE GOT THEM TAMED.
YOU WIN.
I WON'T EAT ANY MORE RABBITS. PLEASE GO.
FINE, I GET IT. PLEASE LEAVE. I WAS WRONG.


SHE'S STILL BREATHING, BUT JUST BARELY... I HAVE TO DO WHAT I CAN.
RIP
RRRIP
RIP
!
WATCHING OVER ME, HUHZ
SHE'S STILL UNCON-SCIOUS.
THESE WOUNDS ARE AWFUL ...
SHE MIGHT NOT MAKE IT...

HEHEHE
...
HM?

...

F-FINE... I WON'T, SO DON'T GLARE AT ME LIKE THAT.

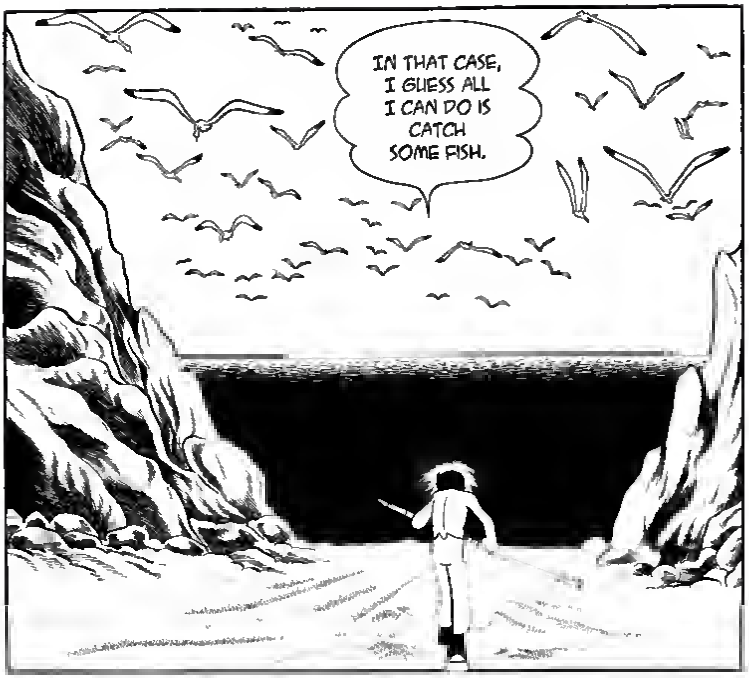
I'VE BEEN STARED AT BY A BEAST OF PREY AT THE ZOO...

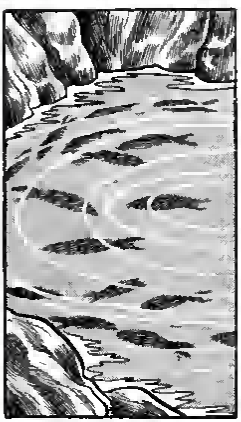
BUT THAT GAZE WAS SORROWFUL, OR RATHER, JUST HARMLESS AND DROWSY.

WHEREAS THESE EYES ...

ARE FULL OF REPROACH AND BLAME.

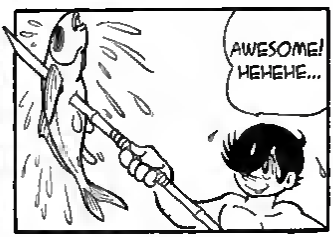
OKAY, I GET IT!
I'M NOT ALLOWED TO HUNT AND EAT ANY BIRDS OR ANIMALS ON THE ISLAND, RIGHT?

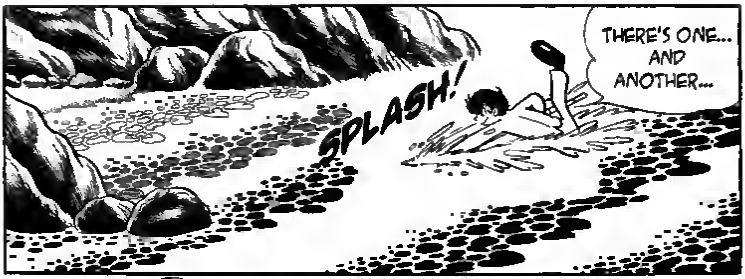

IN THAT CASE, I GUESS ALL I CAN DO IS CATCH SOME FISH.



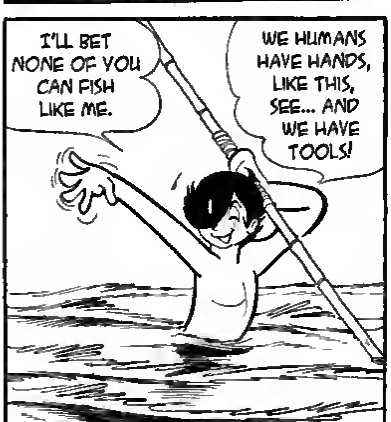
OH-HO! HERE WE ARE!

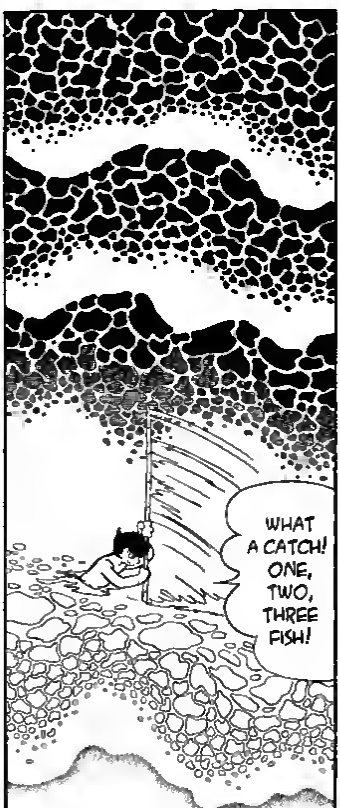
SPLASH!


AWESOME! HEHEHE...


SPLASH!
THERE'S ONE... AND ANOTHER...

HEHE, I WISH SOMEONE WERE HERE TO SEE THIS!
SHOW ME ON TV, I'D BE A SENSATION!

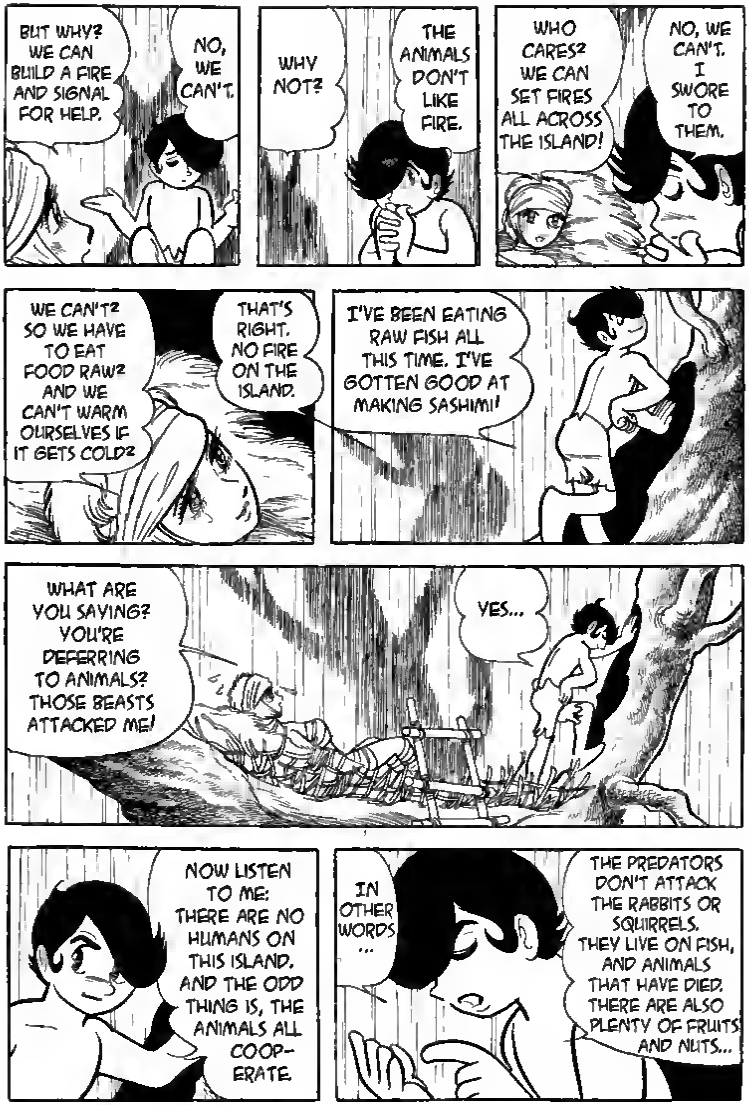

I'LL BET NONE OF YOU CAN FISH LIKE ME.
WE HUMANS HAVE HANDS, LIKE THIS, SEE... AND WE HAVE TOOLS!


WHAT A CATCH! ONE, TWO, THREE FISH!

I'LL GIVE YOU THAT MUCH. SHARE IT.
BE SURE TO DIVIDE IT FAIRLY. NO FIGHTS!
WHAT'S THAT? WHAT HAVE YOU GOT THERE?
OH, A MEDICINAL HERB!

CHEW
PAYBACK FOR THE FISH, HUH?
I HAVE TO CHEW IT FOR HER...

HOW LONG WAS I UNCONSCIOUS ?
I DON'T KNOW... I DIDN'T KEEP TRACK. TEN DAYS, I GUESS.
YOU TOOK CARE OF ME?
YEAH... TO BE HONEST, I THOUGHT YOU WERE A GONER.
THANK YOU... WHEN WE GET BACK TO TOKYO, I'LL BE SURE TO REPAY YOU.
IT'S NOT GOING TO BE THAT EASY...
IT'LL BE HARD TO GET RESCUED.

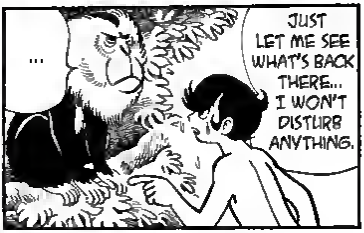

BUT WHY? WE CAN BUILD A FIRE AND SIGNAL FOR HELP.
NO, WE CAN'T.
WHY NOT?
THE ANIMALS DON'T LIKE FIRE.
WHO CARES? WE CAN SET FIRES ALL ACROSS THE ISLAND!
NO, WE CAN'T. I SWORE TO THEM.
WE CAN'T? SO WE HAVE TO EAT FOOD RAW? AND WE CAN'T WARM OURSELVES IF IT GETS COLD?
THAT'S RIGHT. NO FIRE ON THE ISLAND.
I'VE BEEN EATING RAW FISH ALL THIS TIME. I'VE GOTTEN GOOD AT MAKING SASHIMI!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE DEFERRING TO ANIMALS? THOSE BEASTS ATTACKED ME!
YES...
NOW LISTEN TO ME: THERE ARE NO HUMANS ON THIS ISLAND. AND THE ODD THING IS, THE ANIMALS ALL COOP-ERATE.
IN OTHER WORDS ...
THE PREDATORS DON'T ATTACK THE RABBITS OR SQUIRRELS. THEY LIVE ON FISH, AND ANIMALS THAT HAVE DIED. THERE ARE ALSO PLENTY OF FRUITS AND NUTS...

THE ANIMALS HERE HAVE A COMMUNAL SOCIETY. AS LONG AS WE'RE HERE, WE HAVE TO OBEY THEIR RULES: NO KILLING ANIMALS, AND NO FIRES. AS LONG AS WE DO THAT, THEY'LL ACCEPT US AS THEIR OWN.
BUT WHY? WHY? WHY IS IT LIKE THAT? WHY SUCH RULES?
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THAT'S HOW IT IS. IT'S A MYSTERY.
WHEN YOU'RE BETTER, I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND.
THE ANIMALS LEAD PERFECTLY CONTENTED LIVES. AND THEY'RE CUTE ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW THEM.
I WANT TO GO HOME TO TOKYO...
I DO TOO. BUT IT'S NOT SO BAD HERE, EITHER.
AT LEAST IT'S BETTER THAN SOME STUPID, LOUD, POLLUTED DOWNTOWN.

MORNING!

GRRR...

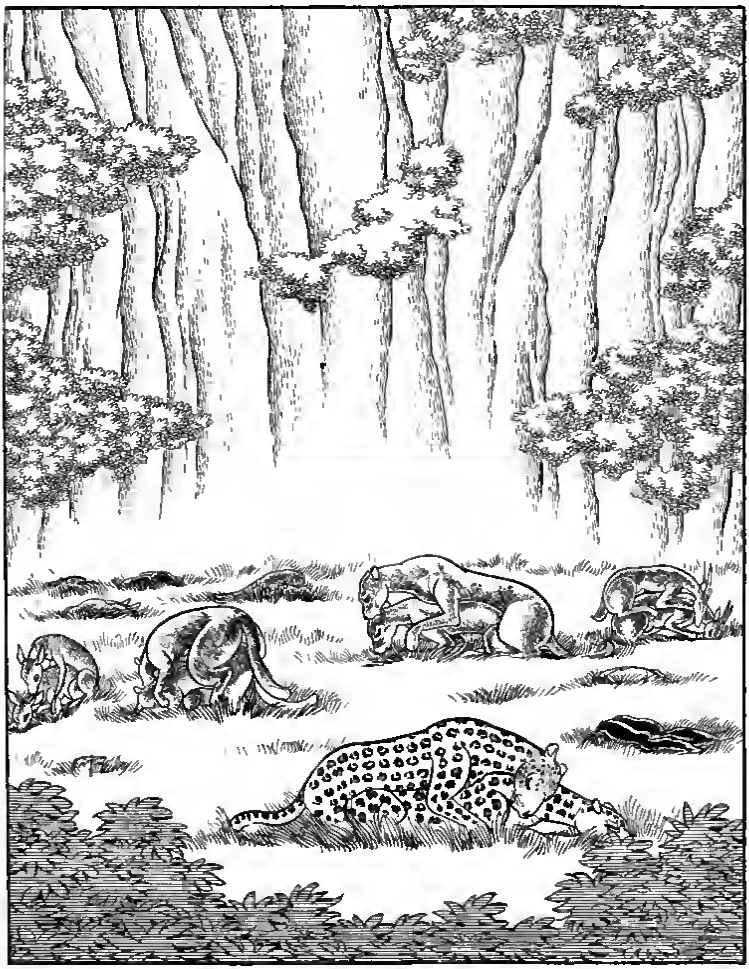
HOW COME I'M NOT ALLOWED TO GO BEYOND HERE?
I'M ONE OF YOU, AREN'T I? DON'T EXCLUDE ME!

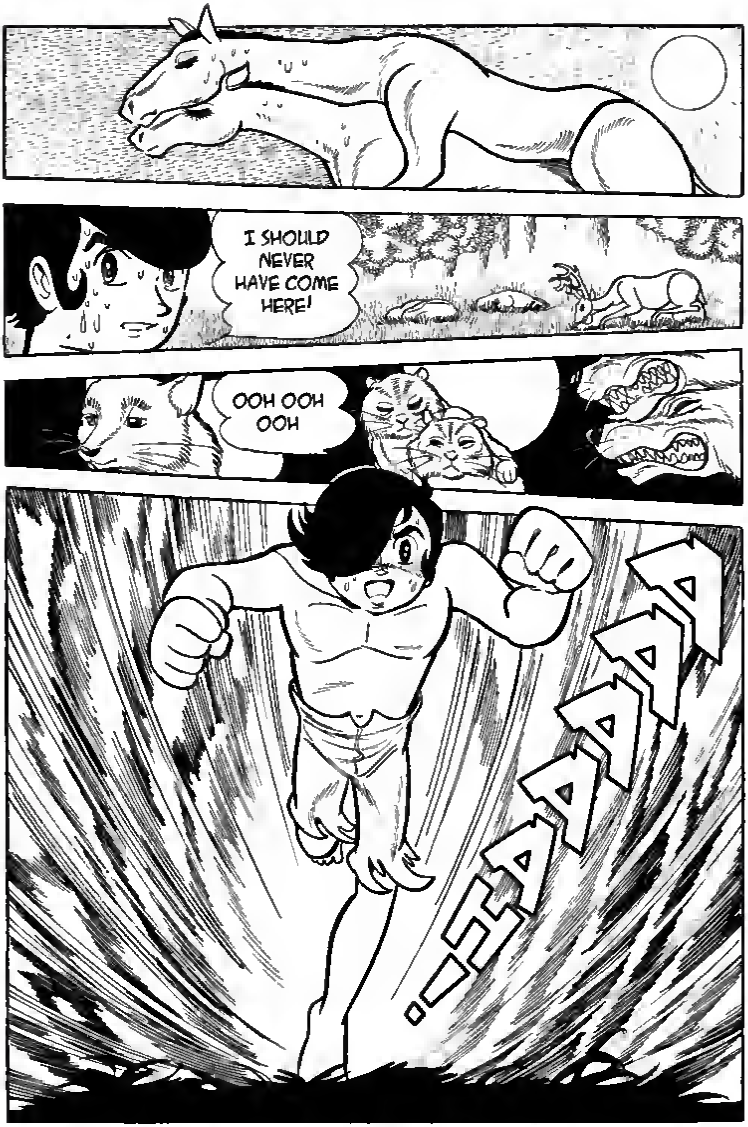

...
JUST LET ME SEE WHAT'S BACK THERE... I WON'T DISTURB ANYTHING.

THANK YOU.

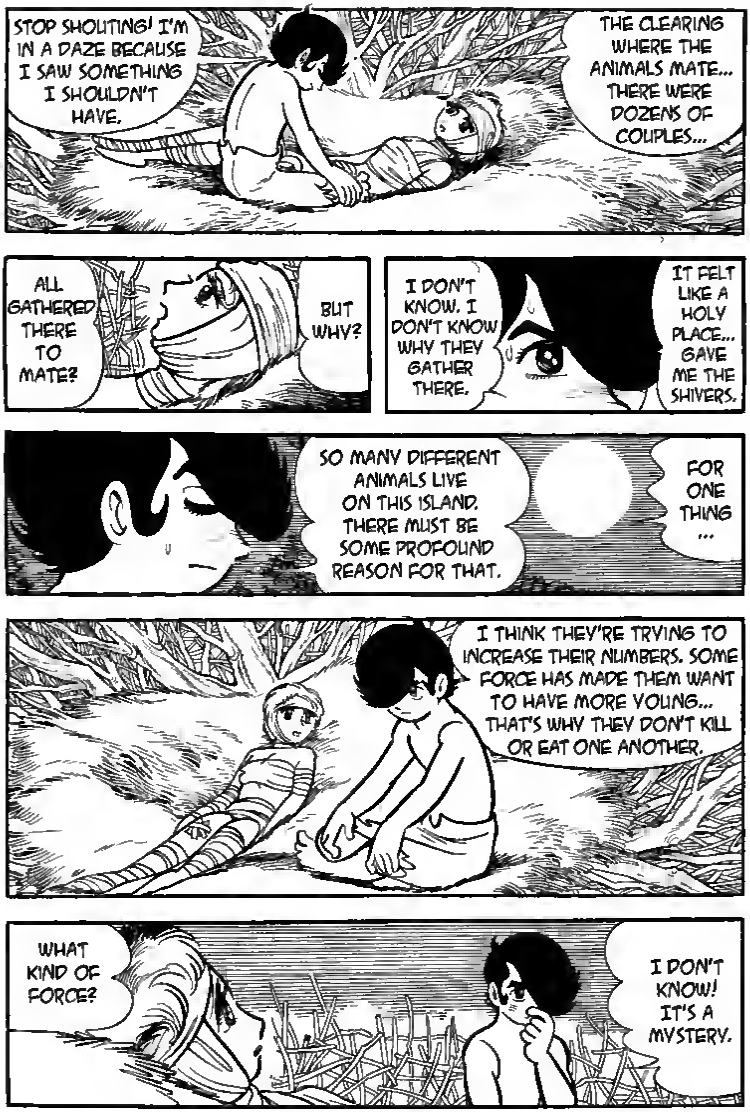
THAT'S STRANGE...
IT'S SO SILENT. NOT EVEN A BIRDSONG.

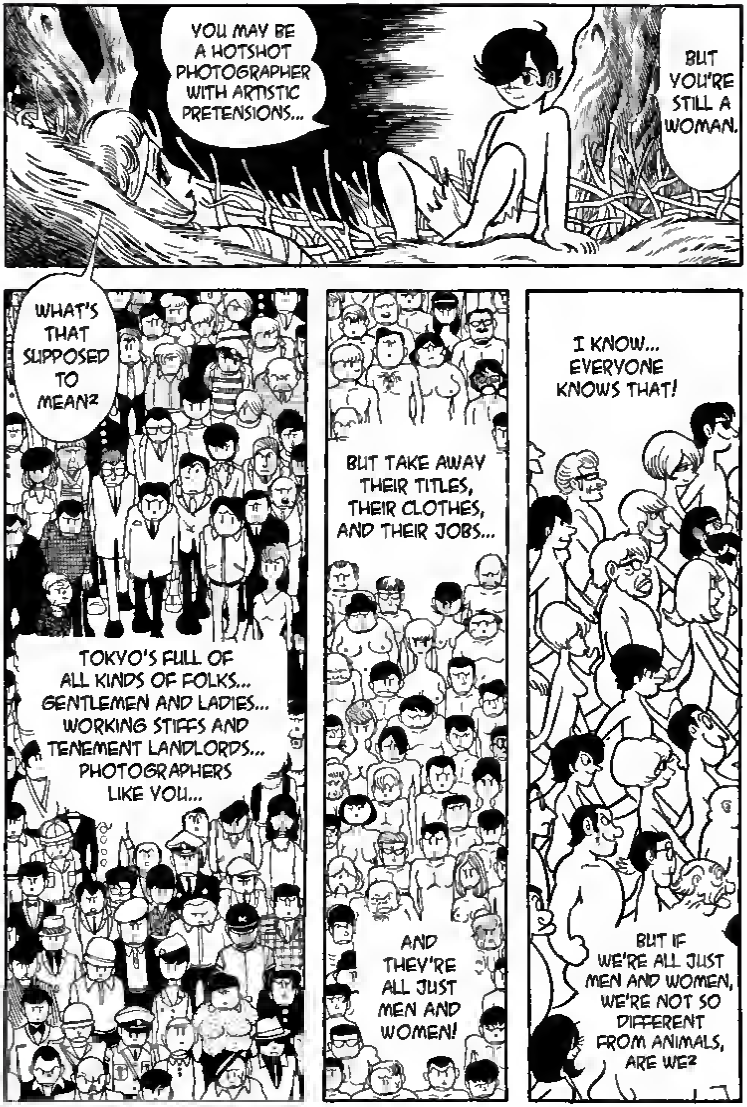
OH!

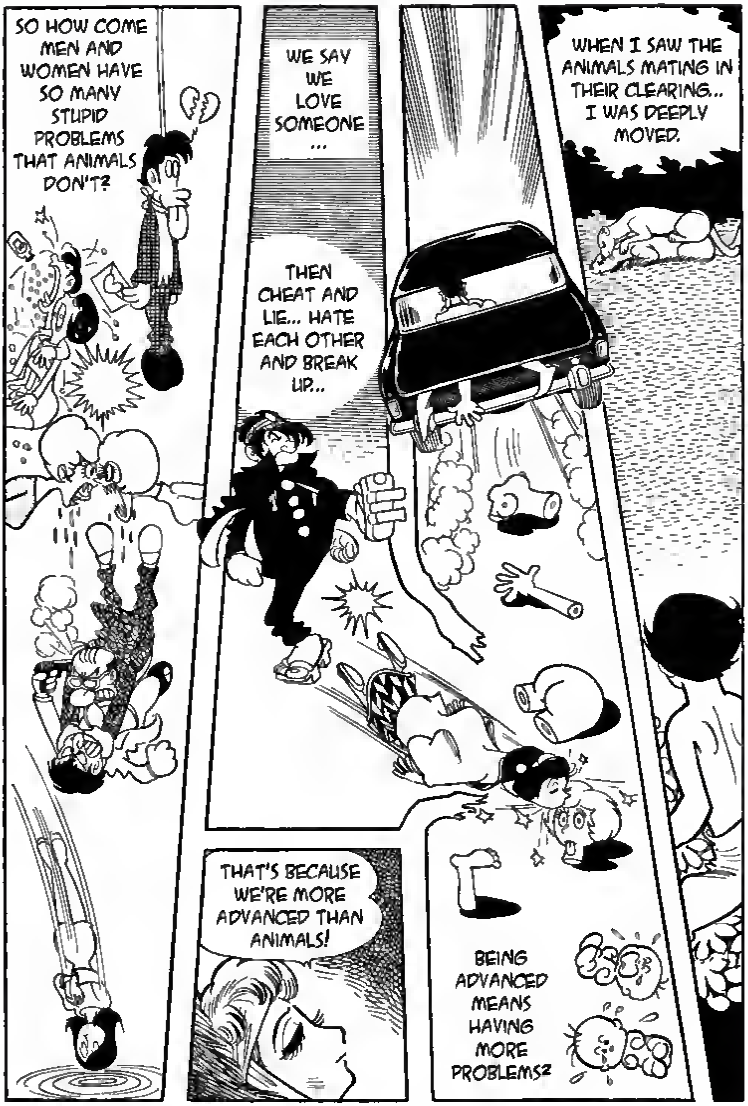


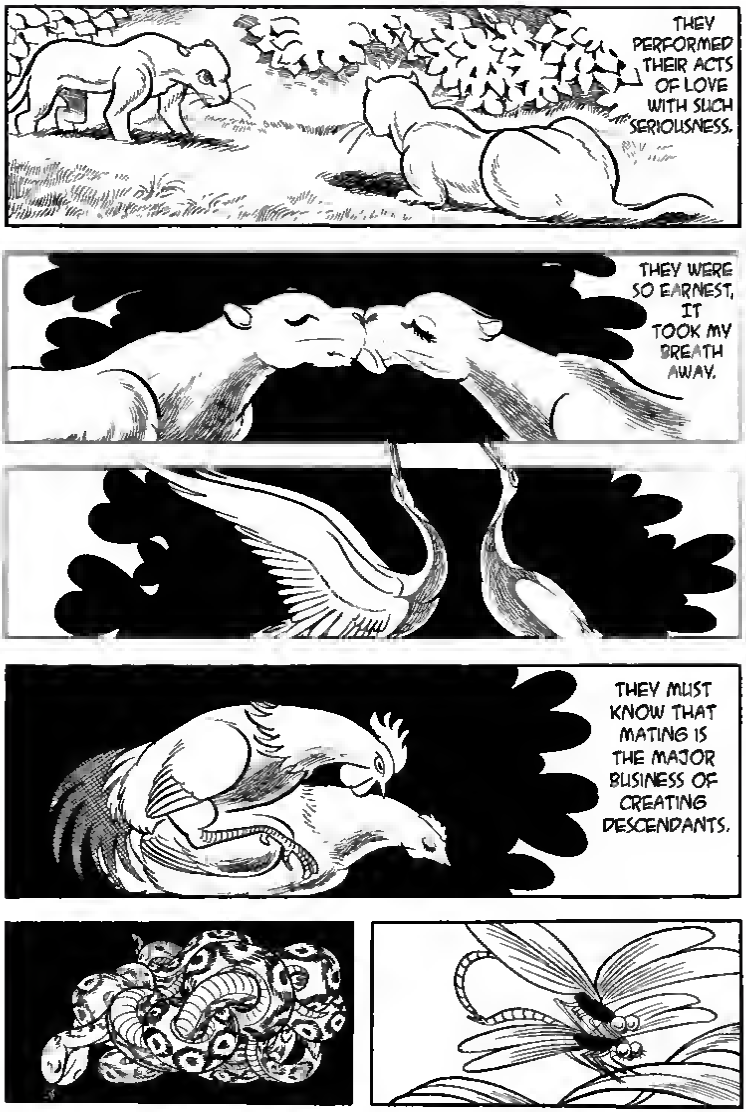

I SHOULD NEVER HAVE COME HERE!
OOH OOH OOH
DADADA

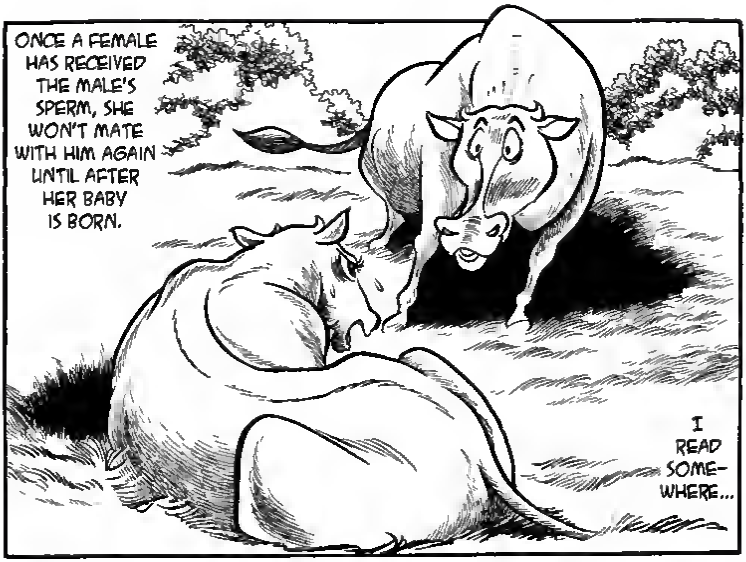
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
STOP! WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
DON'T COME NEAR ME! STOP!! NOOO!!!
NO... AAAH!

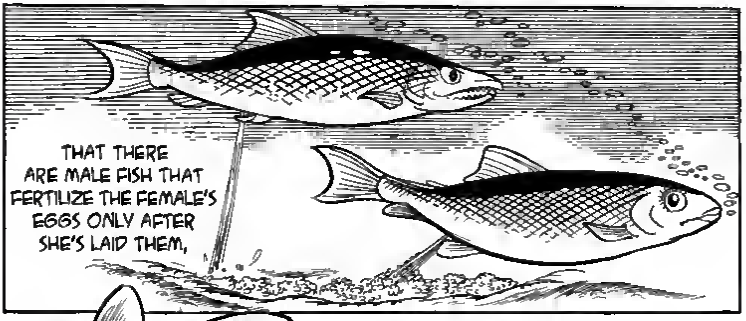

STOP SHOUTING! I'M IN A DAZE BECAUSE I SAW SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE.
THE CLEARING WHERE THE ANIMALS MATE... THERE WERE DOZENS OF COUPLES...
ALL GATHERED THERE TO MATE?
BUT WHY?
I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY GATHER THERE.
IT FELT LIKE A HOLY PLACE... GAVE ME THE SHIVERS.
SO MANY DIFFERENT ANIMALS LIVE ON THIS ISLAND. THERE MUST BE SOME PROFOUND REASON FOR THAT.
FOR ONE THING ...
I THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO INCREASE THEIR NUMBERS. SOME FORCE HAS MADE THEM WANT TO HAVE MORE YOUNG... THAT'S WHY THEY DON'T KILL OR EAT ONE ANOTHER.
WHAT KIND OF FORCE?
I DON'T KNOW! IT'S A MYSTERY.


YOU MAY BE A HOTSHOT PHOTOGRAPHER WITH ARTISTIC PRETENSIONS...
BUT YOU'RE STILL A WOMAN.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
TOKYO'S FULL OF ALL KINDS OF FOLKS... GENTLEMEN AND LADIES... WORKING STIFFS AND TENEMENT LANDLORDS... PHOTOGRAPHERS LIKE YOU...
BUT TAKE AWAY THEIR TITLES, THEIR CLOTHES, AND THEIR JOBS...
AND THEY'RE ALL JUST MEN AND WOMEN!
I KNOW... EVERYONE KNOWS THAT!
BUT IF WE'RE ALL JUST MEN AND WOMEN, WE'RE NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM ANIMALS, ARE WE?

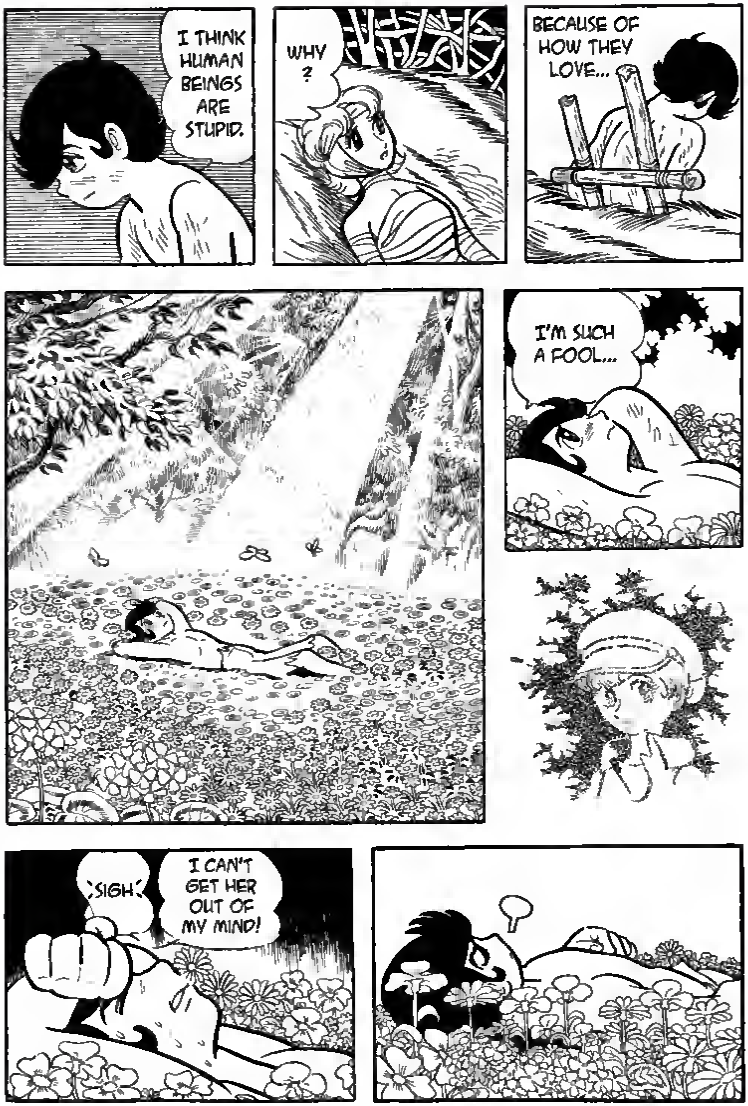

SO HOW COME MEN AND WOMEN HAVE SO MANY STUPID PROBLEMS THAT ANIMALS DON'T?
WE SAY WE LOVE SOMEONE ...
THEN CHEAT AND LIE... HATE EACH OTHER AND BREAK UP...
WHEN I SAW THE ANIMALS MATING IN THEIR CLEARING... I WAS DEEPLY MOVED.
THAT'S BECAUSE WE'RE MORE ADVANCED THAN ANIMALS!
BEING ADVANCED MEANS HAVING MORE PROBLEMS?


THEY PERFORMED THEIR ACTS OF LOVE WITH SUCH SERIOUSNESS.
THEY WERE SO EARNEST, IT TOOK MY BREATH AWAY.
THEY MUST KNOW THAT MATING IS THE MAJOR BUSINESS OF CREATING DESCENDANTS.

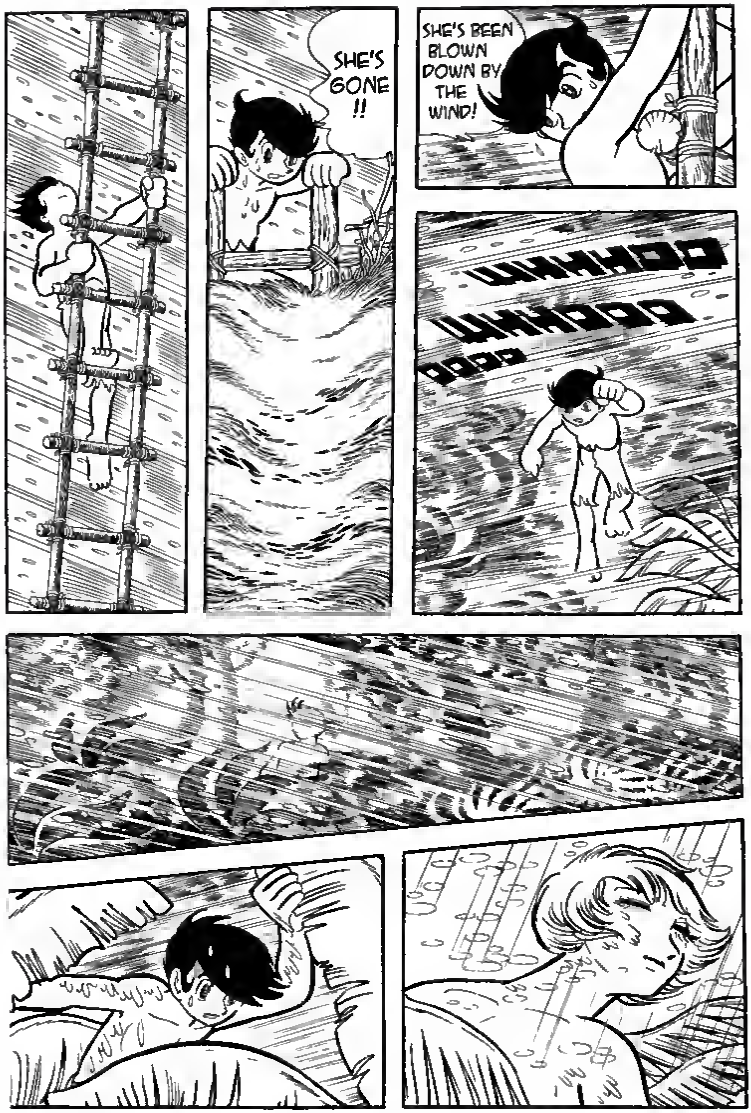

ONCE A FEMALE HAS RECEIVED THE MALE'S SPERM, SHE WON'T MATE WITH HIM AGAIN UNTIL AFTER HER BABY IS BORN.
I READ SOME-WHERE...

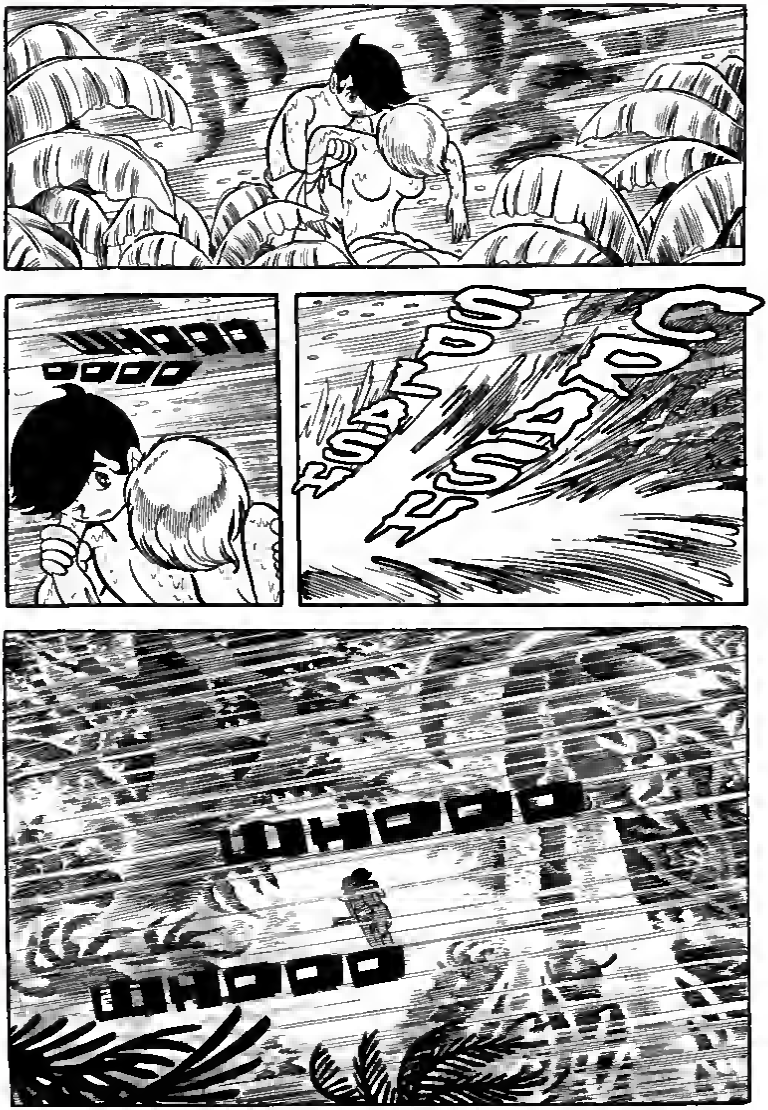

THAT THERE ARE MALE FISH THAT FERTILIZE THE FEMALE'S EGGS ONLY AFTER SHE'S LAID THEM,

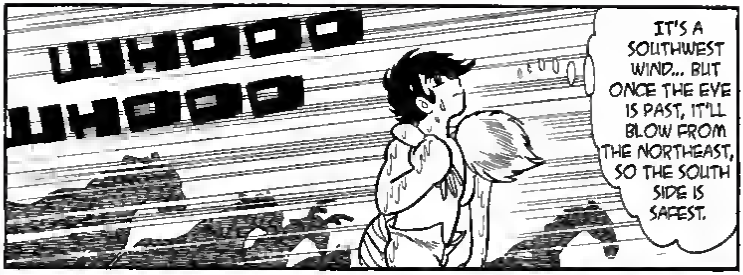
AND MALE INSECTS WHO DIE AFTER THEY'VE DELIVERED THEIR SEED TO A FEMALE— THEIR WORK DONE.


I THINK HUMAN BEINGS ARE STUPID.
WHY ?
BECAUSE OF HOW THEY LOVE...
I'M SUCH A FOOL...
SIGH
I CAN'T GET HER OUT OF MY MIND!

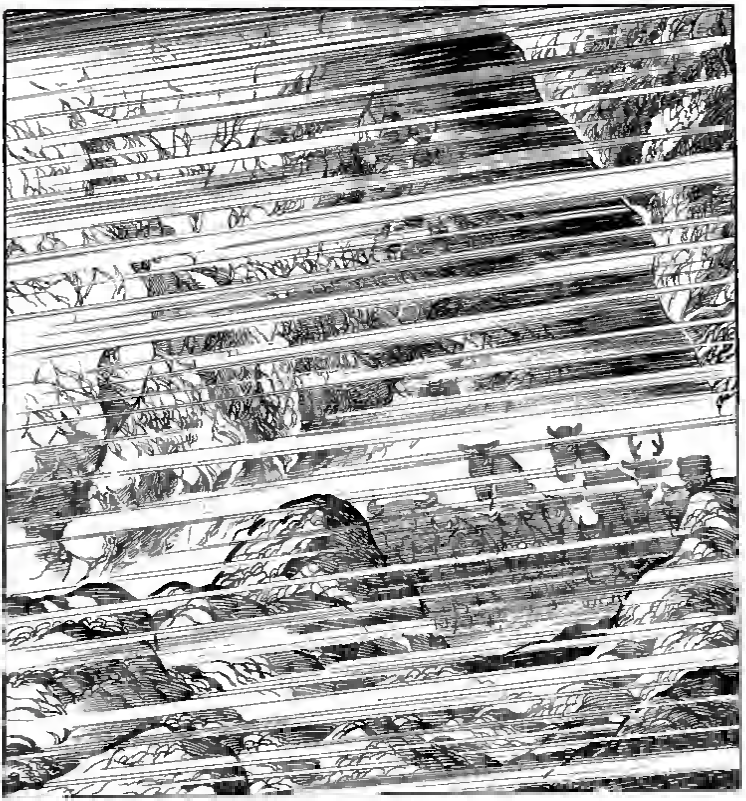
HMM?
RAIN!
GALE WINDS!
A TROPICAL CYCLONE!
OH, NO...
WHHHOOO


SHE'S GONE !!
SHE'S BEEN BLOWN DOWN BY THE WIND!
WHHOO
WHHOO
OOO

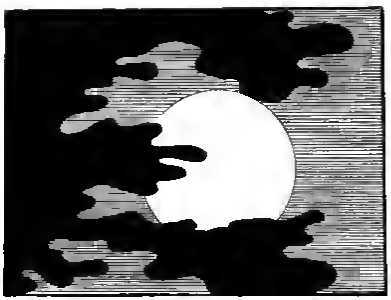

HOOOO
HOOOO
HOOOO
HOOOO
HOOOO


WHOOO
WHOOO
IT'S A SOUTHWEST WIND... BUT ONCE THE EYE IS PAST, IT'LL BLOW FROM THE NORTHEAST, SO THE SOUTH SIDE IS SAFEST.

EVERYONE INTO THAT CREVICE! WE'LL BE SHELTERED THERE FROM THE WIND AND RAIN!

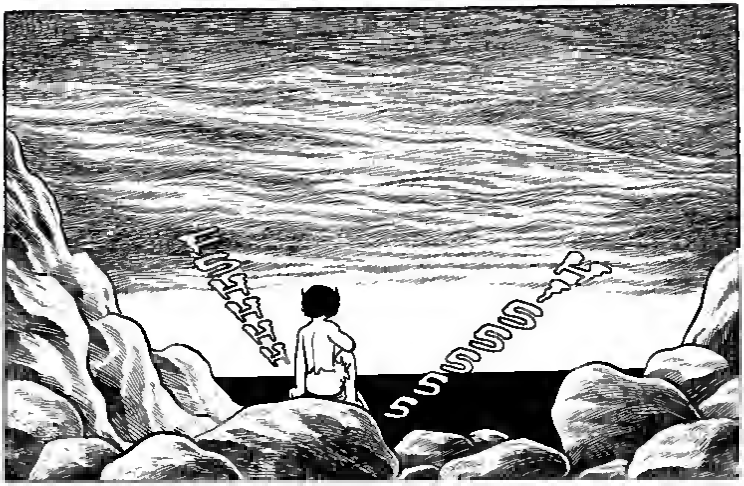


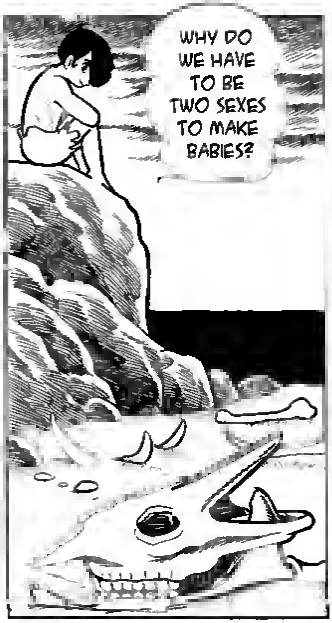
WE'RE SAFE NOW. THE STORM HAS PASSED.

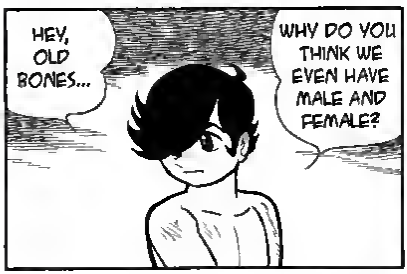


GOOD NIGHT.
SLAP!

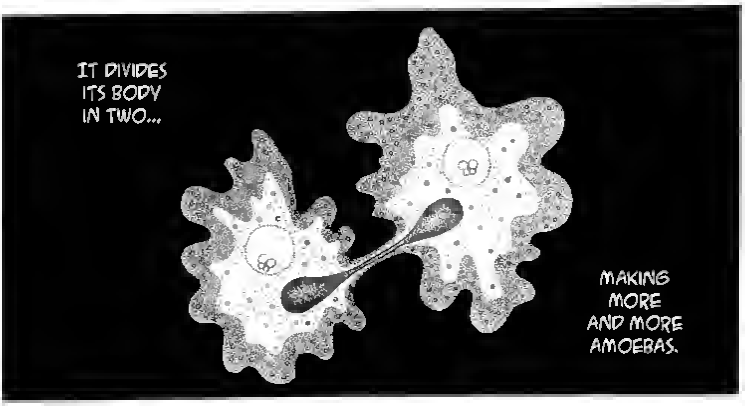
GET AWAY!
WANT TO KNOW WHY I SAID HUMANS ARE STUPID?
I LIKE YOU... AND YOU LIKE ME, DON'T YOU?
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
WE LIKE EACH OTHER, BUT WE CAN'T ADMIT IT!
SO MANY REASONS WHY: PRIDE, HONOR, CAREER, INHIBITIONS, SCORN, HATRED...
THAT'S ENOUGH !!
... SLEEP WELL.
;SOB;



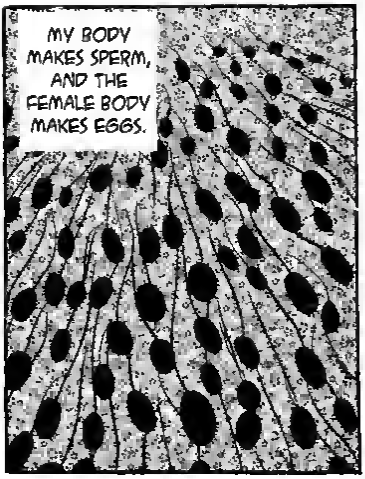

WHY DO WE HAVE TO BE TWO SEXES TO MAKE BABIES?


HEY, OLD BONES...
WHY DO YOU THINK WE EVEN HAVE MALE AND FEMALE?

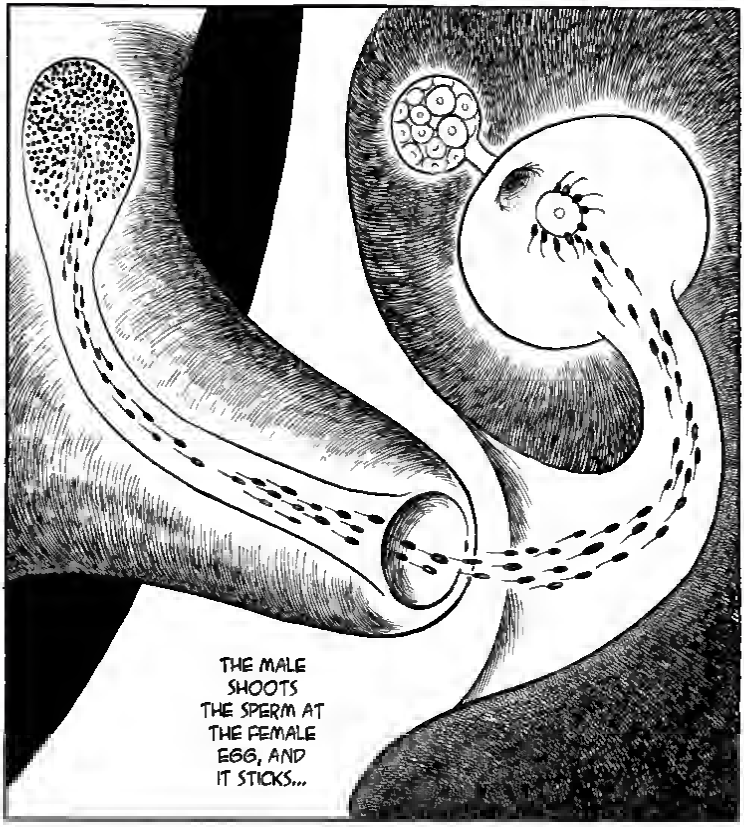
THE LOWLY AMOEBA DOESN'T HAVE THIS MALE AND FEMALE CRAP.

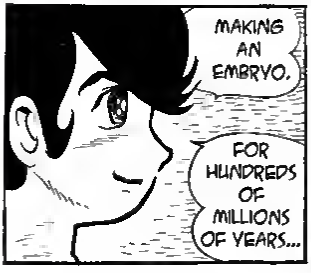

IT DIVIDES ITS BODY IN TWO...
MAKING MORE AND MORE AMOEBAS.

IT'D BE EASIER IF HUMANS COULD DO THAT, TOO.


MY BODY MAKES SPERM, AND THE FEMALE BODY MAKES EGGS.

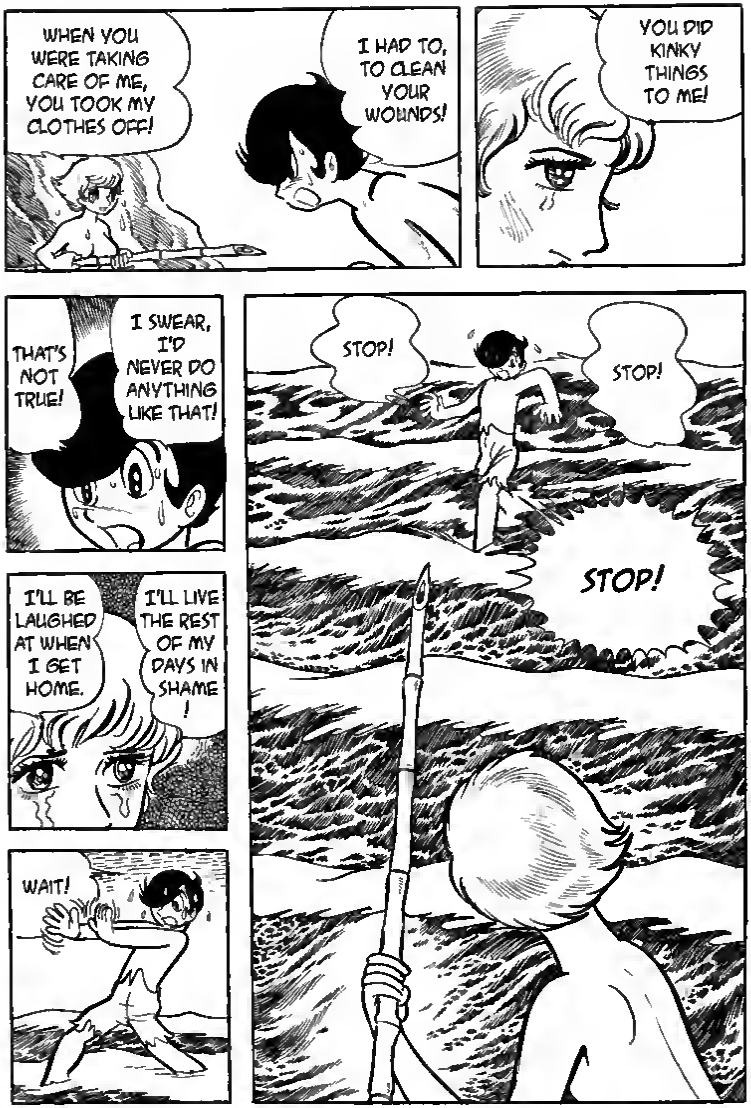
SEX!

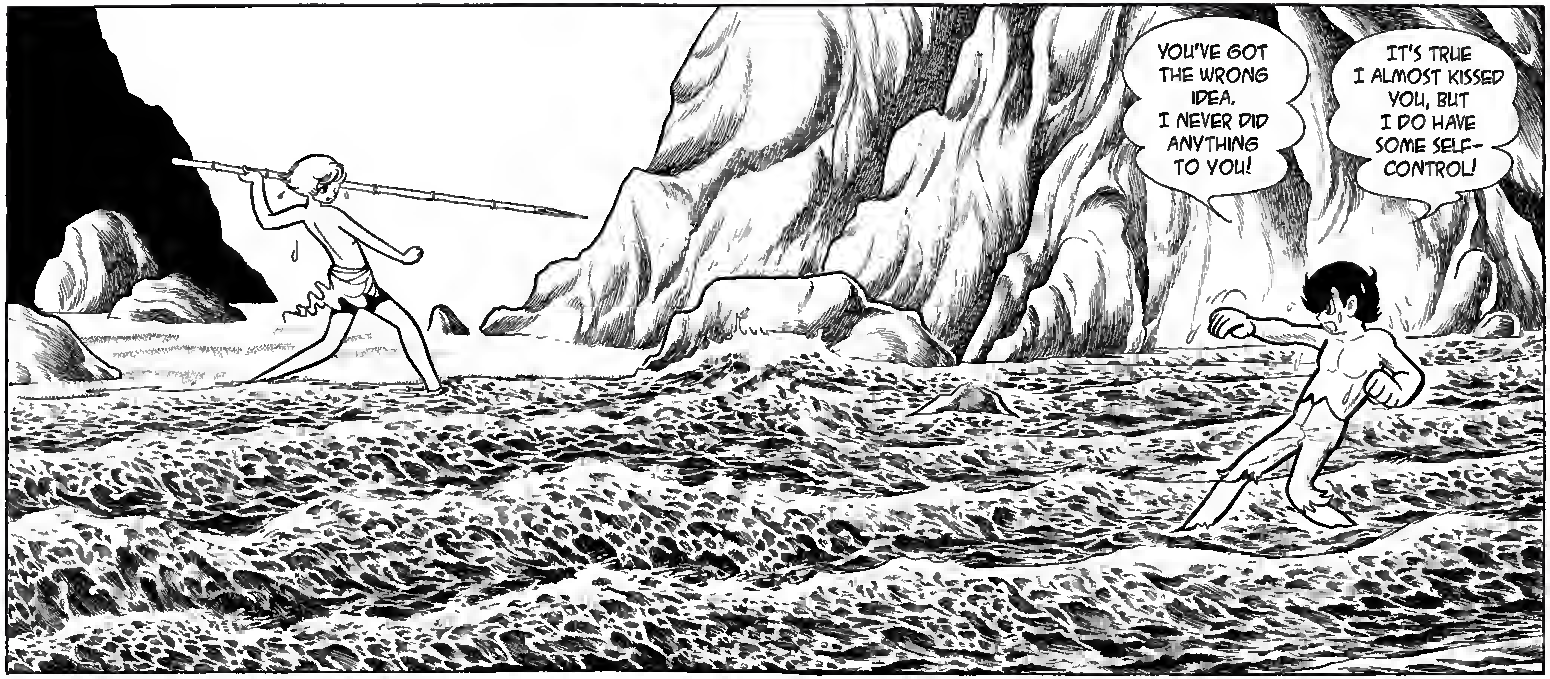

THE MALE SHOOTS THE SPERM AT THE FEMALE EGG, AND IT STICKS...


MAKING AN EMBRYO.
FOR HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS...

MALES AND FEMALES HAVE REPEATED THE PROCESS.

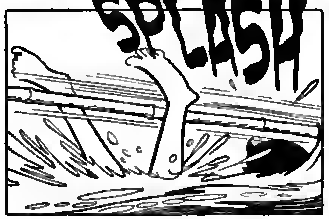
ARE YOU FINALLY BETTER? YOU CAN WALK! HA HA!
YIKES! WATCH OUT!
SZOOSH
QUIT PLAYING AROUND!
I'M VERY SORRY...
BUT I HAVE TO KILL YOU!
BUT WHY? I NURSED YOU BACK TO HEALTH!
I WANT TO GO BACK TO TOKYO,
BUT I CAN'T NOW!

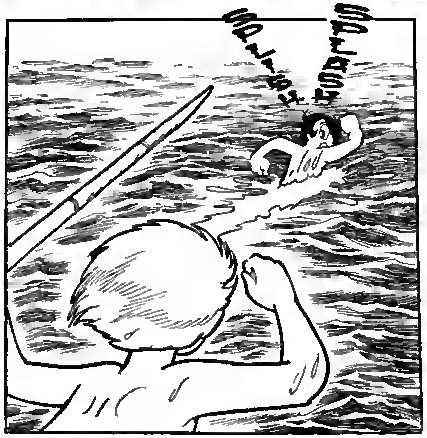

WHEN YOU WERE TAKING CARE OF ME, YOU TOOK MY CLOTHES OFF!
I HAD TO, TO CLEAN YOUR WOUNDS!
YOU DID KINKY THINGS TO ME!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I SWEAR, I'D NEVER DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
STOP!
STOP!
STOP!
I'LL BE LAUGHED AT WHEN I GET HOME.
I'LL LIVE THE REST OF MY DAYS IN SHAME!
WAIT!

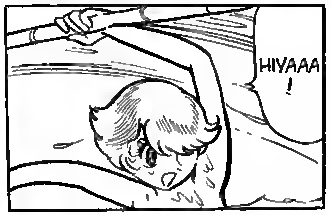

YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG IDEA. I NEVER DID ANYTHING TO YOU!
IT'S TRUE I ALMOST KISSED YOU, BUT I DO HAVE SOME SELF-CONTROL!

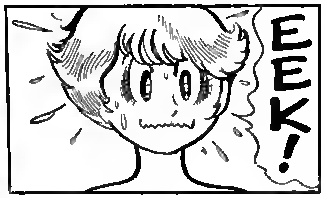
THAT'S DANGEROUS! COME ON, STOP IT!

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!

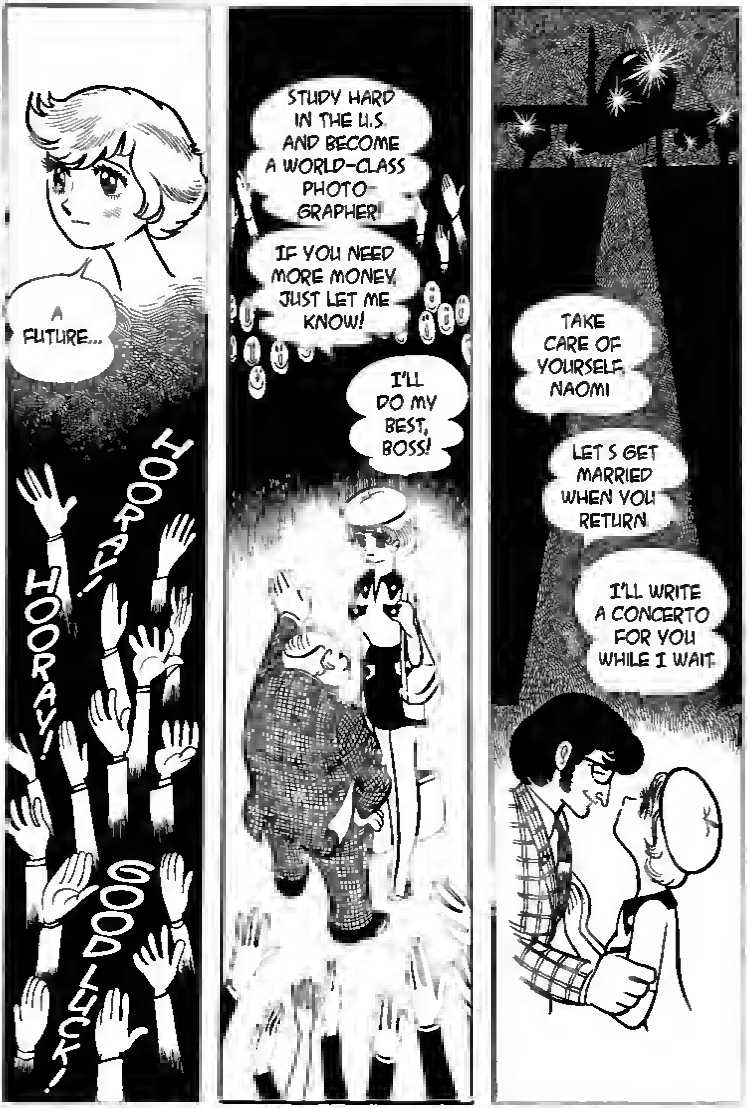

SPLASH

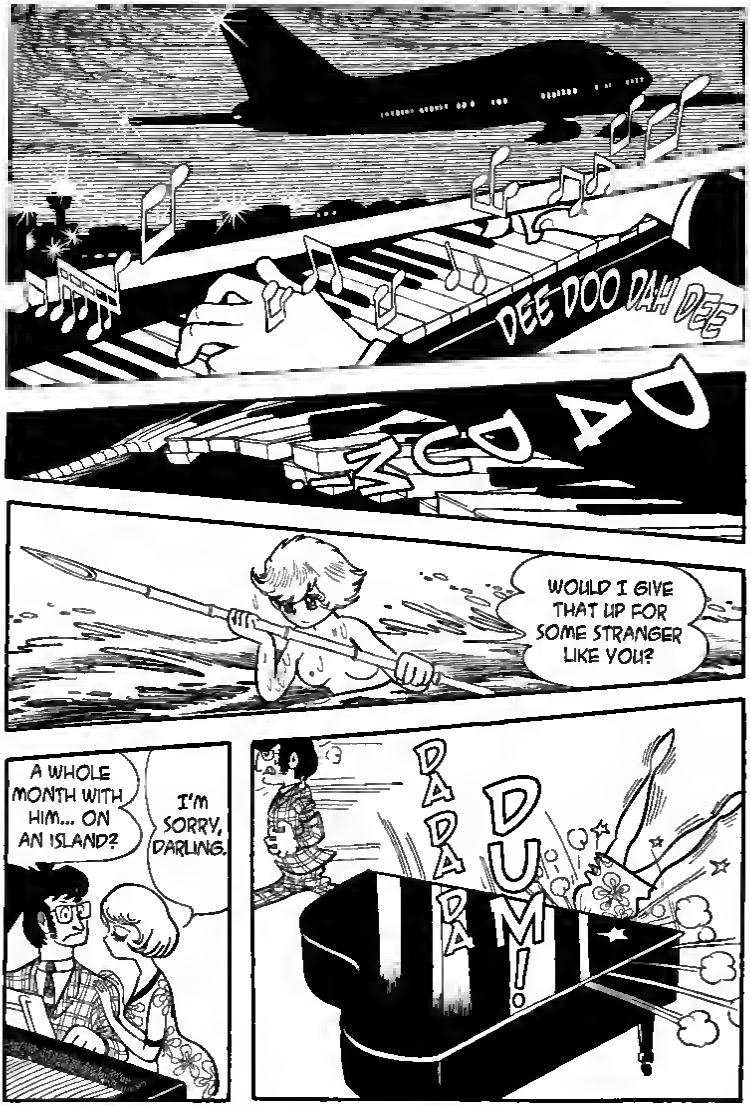

SPLASH


HIYAAA!

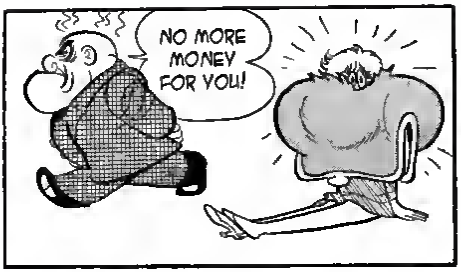

EEK!

FLOAT
NOOO
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING !!
YOU'RE REALLY GONNA KILL ME?
YES!
WHAT DO YOU STAND TO GAIN? IF YOU KILL ME, YOU'LL REGRET IT YOUR WHOLE LIFE!
IF YOU KILL ME FOR NO REASON, I'LL HAUNT YOU FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE!
I HAVE A FUTURE TO THINK ABOUT.
A BRIGHT FUTURE!

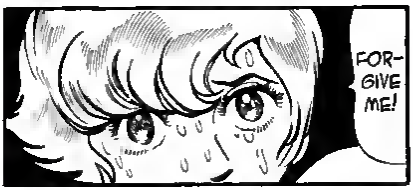

A FUTURE...
HOORAY!
HOORAY!
GOOD LUCK!
STUDY HARD IN THE U.S. AND BECOME A WORLD-CLASS PHOTO-GRAPHER!
IF YOU NEED MORE MONEY, JUST LET ME KNOW!
I'LL DO MY BEST, BOSS!
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, NAOMI
LET'S GET MARRIED WHEN YOU RETURN
I'LL WRITE A CONCERTO FOR YOU WHILE I WAIT

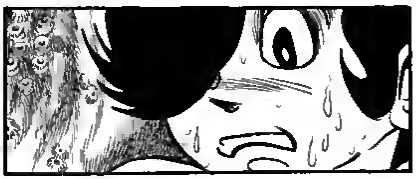

DEE DOO DAH DEE
WOULD I GIVE THAT UP FOR SOME STRANGER LIKE YOU?
A WHOLE MONTH WITH HIM... ON AN ISLAND?
I'M SORRY, DARLING.
DA DA DA DUM!

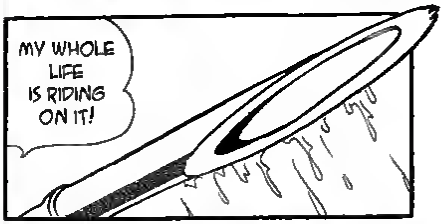
FOR SHAME! YOU LIVED WITH SOME STRAY LOWLIFE FOR A MONTH?


NO MORE MONEY FOR YOU!

IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU...
EVERYTHING WOULD BE FINE!
YOU'RE SERIOUS, AREN'T YOU?


FOR-GIVE ME!



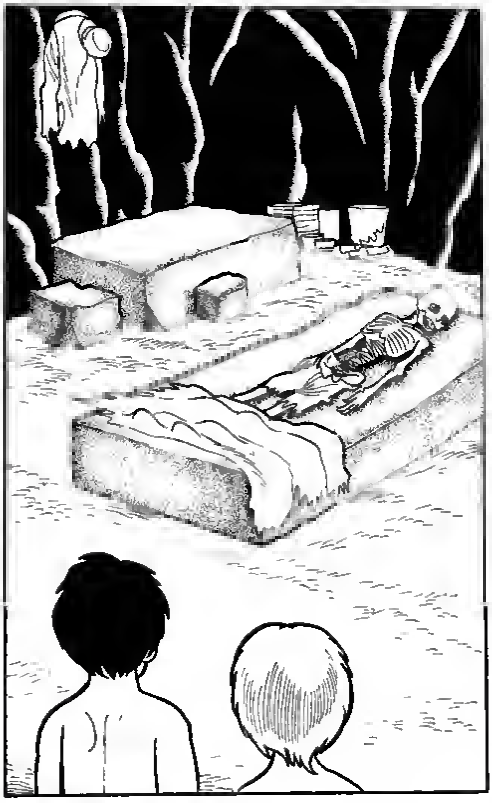

MY WHOLE LIFE IS RIDING ON IT!

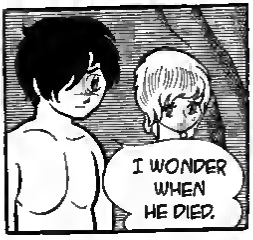
WAAH!!
SPLASH!

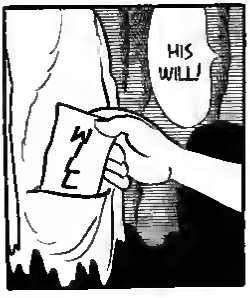
GURGLE GURGLE
GURGLE GURGLE GURGLE GURGLE
GASP
COUGH COUGH COUGH COUGH
UGH... UH... UGH...
I MEANT TO DROWN YOU... BUT I JUST COULDN'T DO IT. I CAN'T KILL YOU.

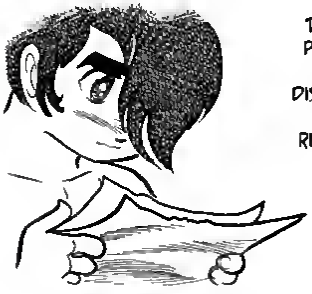
DO ALL WOMEN OBSESS AND TAKE IT HARD WHEN THAT STUFF IS AT STAKE?
;SOB;
;SOB;
WAAAAAAH!
WAH...
...
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BUT DON'T BE SO SELF-CENTERED. IT'S NOT ALL ABOUT YOU.

IF MY BEING HERE BOTHERS YOU, I'LL LEAVE YOU ALONE...
BUT ON THIS ISLAND WE'RE BOUND TO RUN INTO EACH OTHER NO MATTER WHERE WE GO.
I SUPPOSE I COULD CRAWL INTO A CAVE AND NEVER COME OUT...
?
HEY, COME LOOK AT THIS!
SOMEONE'S BEEN HERE! LOOK, A SHIRT!
THIS DIDN'T JUST WASH UP HERE!
HERE, PUT THIS ON.
EH!





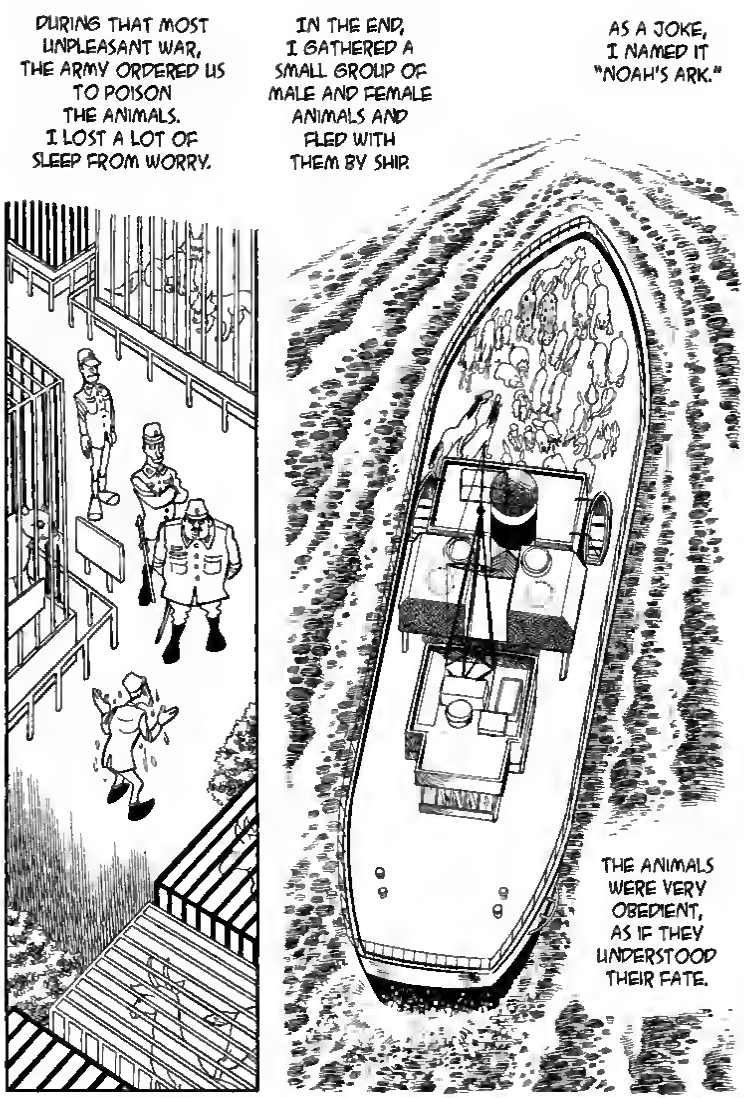


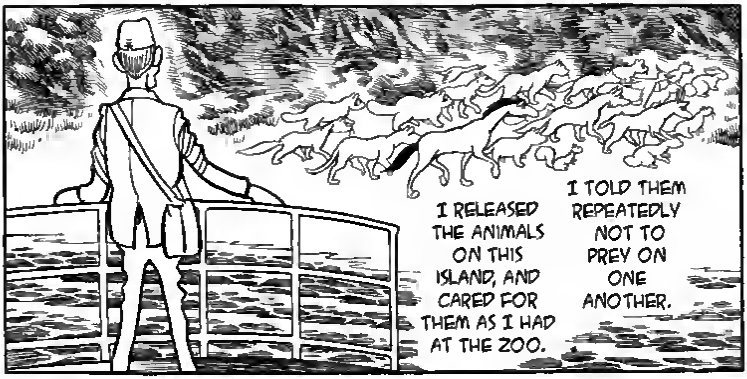


TO THE PERSON WHO DISCOVERS MY REMAINS:

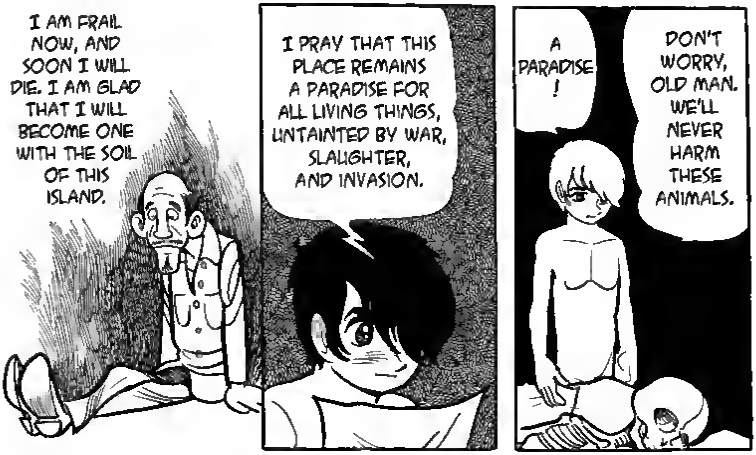
I AM KAZUYOSHI FUKUMOTO, HEAD ZOOKEEPER OF THE HANSHIN ZOO IN KOBE.

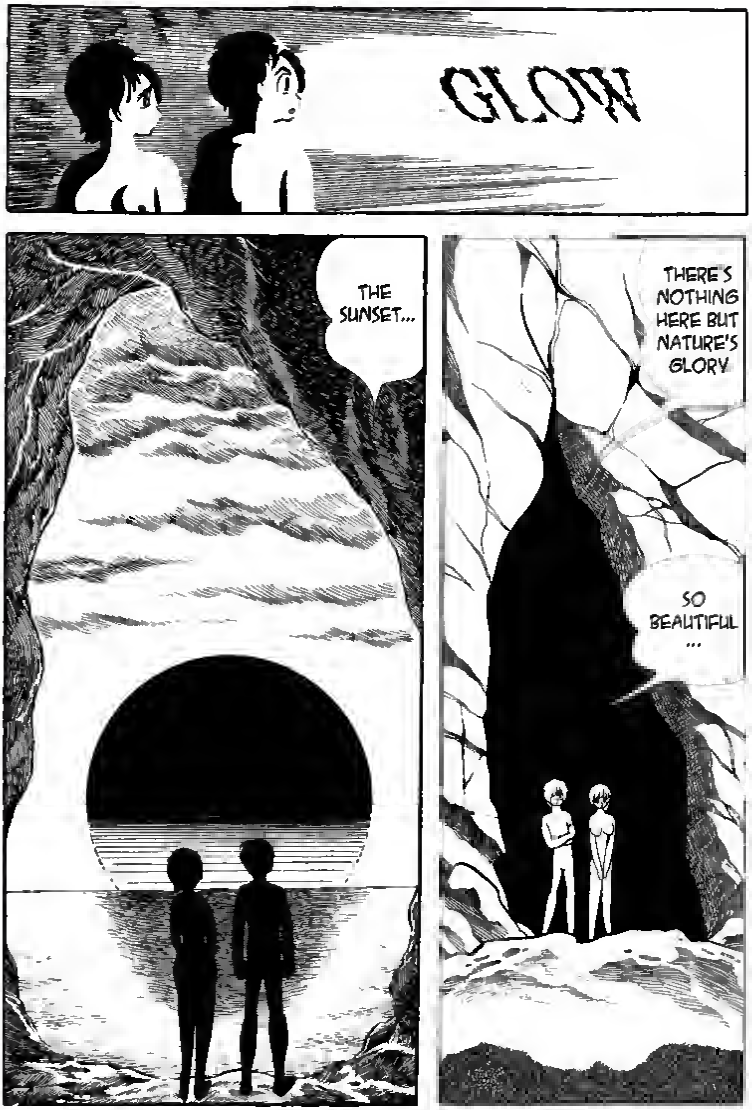
THE ANIMALS HERE ARE THE DESCENDANTS OF THOSE I BROUGHT TO THIS ISLAND.

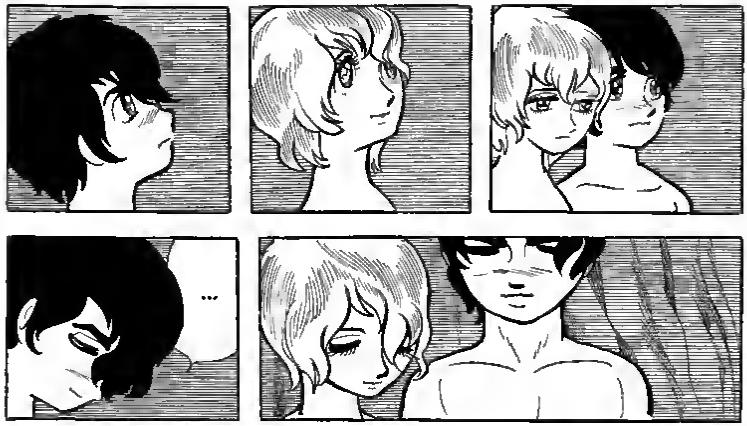

DURING THAT MOST UNPLEASANT WAR, THE ARMY ORDERED US TO POISON THE ANIMALS. I LOST A LOT OF SLEEP FROM WORRY.
IN THE END, I GATHERED A SMALL GROUP OF MALE AND FEMALE ANIMALS AND FLED WITH THEM BY SHIP.
AS A JOKE, I NAMED IT "NOAH'S ARK."
THE ANIMALS WERE VERY OBEDIENT, AS IF THEY UNDERSTOOD THEIR FATE.


I RELEASED THE ANIMALS ON THIS ISLAND, AND CARED FOR THEM AS I HAD AT THE ZOO.
I TOLD THEM REPEATEDLY NOT TO PREY ON ONE ANOTHER.

WHEN YOU SPEAK TO ANIMALS FROM THE HEART, THEY HEAR YOU.
THE ANIMALS UNDERSTOOD, AND THEY LIVED TOGETHER PEACEFULLY.
SOON, THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY DISTINCTION BETWEEN ANIMAL, BIRD, OR HUMAN ON THIS ISLAND.


I AM FRAIL NOW, AND SOON I WILL DIE. I AM GLAD THAT I WILL BECOME ONE WITH THE SOIL OF THIS ISLAND.
I PRAY THAT THIS PLACE REMAINS A PARADISE FOR ALL LIVING THINGS, UNTAINTED BY WAR, SLAUGHTER, AND INVASION.
A PARADISE!
DON'T WORRY, OLD MAN. WE'LL NEVER HARM THESE ANIMALS.


GLOW
THE SUNSET...
THERE'S NOTHING HERE BUT NATURE'S GLORY
SO BEAUTIFUL ...

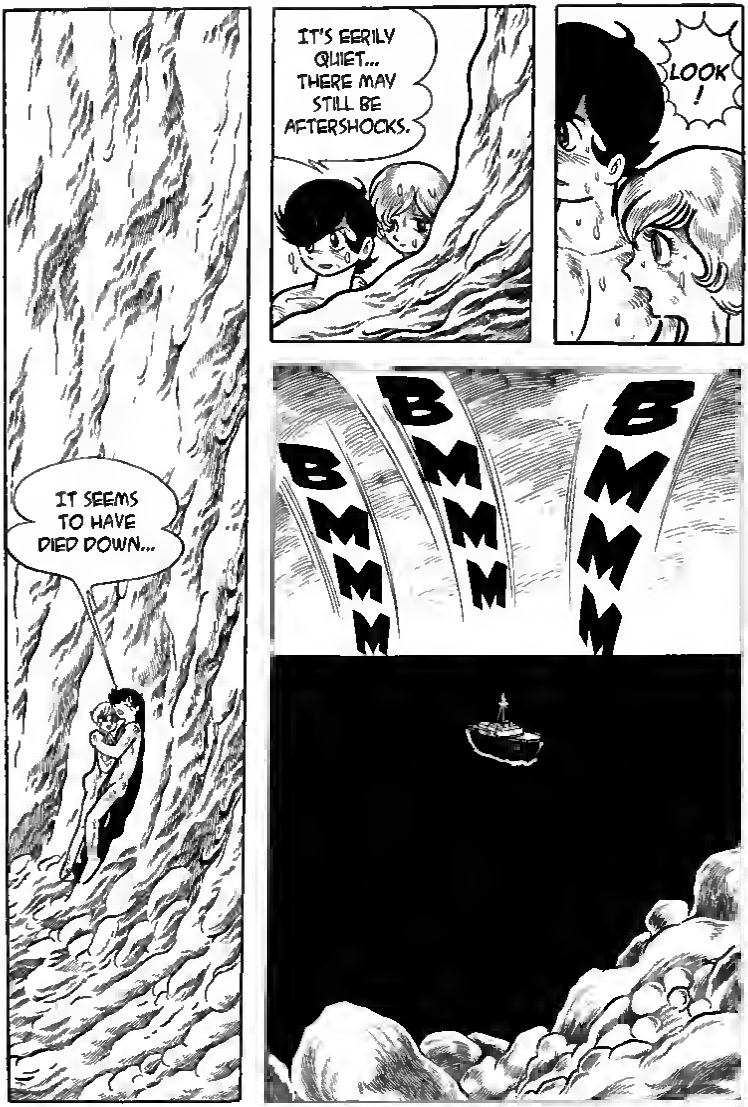


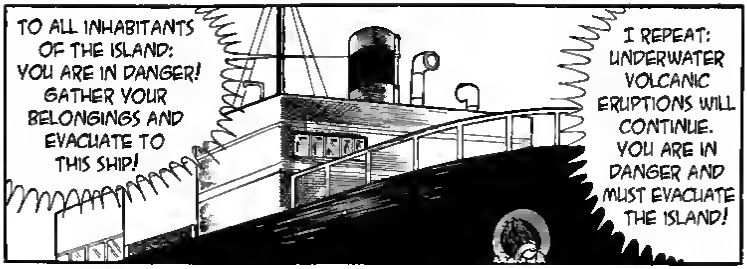
UKYOU
UKYOU
UKYOU
UKYOU
UKYOU
UKYOU
ROARRR!
EARTHQUAKE!

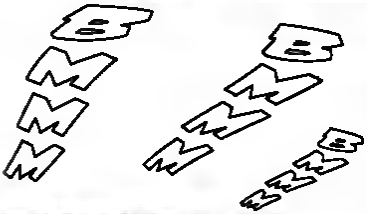
NAOMI, RUN!
HURRY!
HUH?
THUD

ROAR
ROAR
ROAR
WE HAVE TO GET TO THE BEACH! WE'LL BE SAFE THERE!

BOOM
BOOM
LOOK AT THE STEAM RISING FROM THE MOUNTAIN !
THIS IS A VOLCANIC ISLAND!


IT'S EERILY QUIET... THERE MAY STILL BE AFTERSHOCKS.
LOOK!
IT SEEMS TO HAVE DIED DOWN...
BMMM
BMMM
BMMM

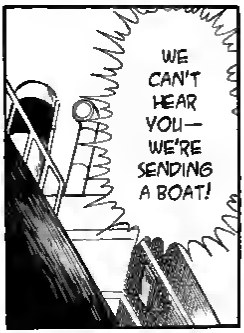

TO ALL INHABITANTS OF THE ISLAND: YOU ARE IN DANGER! GATHER YOUR BELONGINGS AND EVACUATE TO THIS SHIP!
I REPEAT: UNDERWATER VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS WILL CONTINUE. YOU ARE IN DANGER AND MUST EVACUATE THE ISLAND!


EMMEMMEEEE

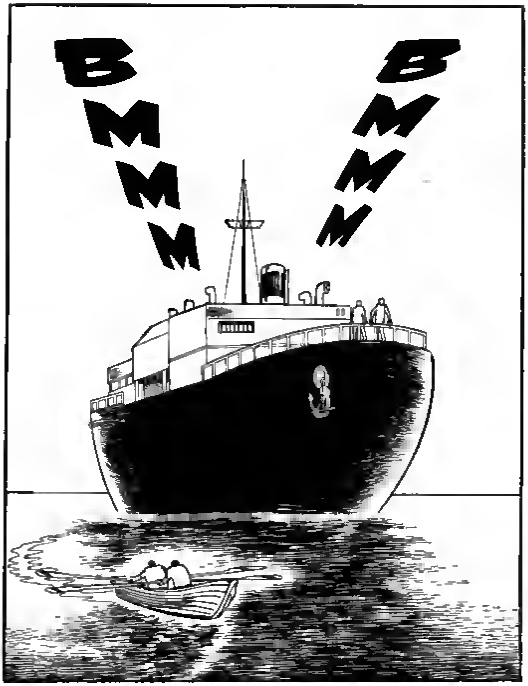
A SHIP! WE'RE SAVED!
...

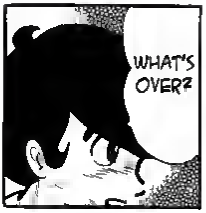
AHOY! AHOY!

WE'RE THE ONLY TWO HUMANS ON THIS ISLAND! THE REST ARE ALL ANIMALS! PLEASE TAKE US ALL ABOARD!


WE CAN'T HEAR YOU— WE'RE SENDING A BOAT!

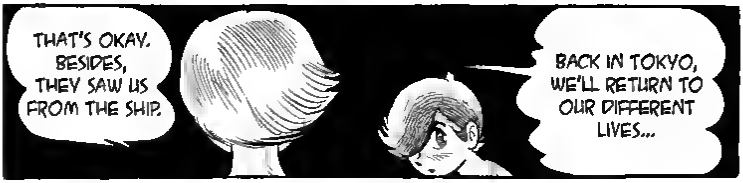
DID YOU HEAR THAT? A BOAT! THAT'S GREAT!
IT'S OVER NOW, ISN'T IT?


BMMM
BMMM


WHAT'S OVER?

NOTHING
...

I SWEAR I WON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED HERE.


THAT'S OKAY. BESIDES, THEY SAW US FROM THE SHIP.
BACK IN TOKYO, WE'LL RETURN TO OUR DIFFERENT LIVES...

WILL WE MEET AGAIN?

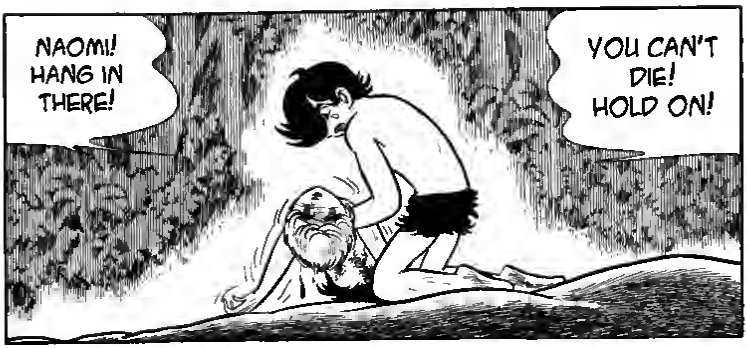
I DOUBT IT... THAT'S HOW LIFE IS, ISN'T IT?
10 YEARS WILL PASS, THEN 20. TODAY WILL SEEM LIKE A FADED DREAM.

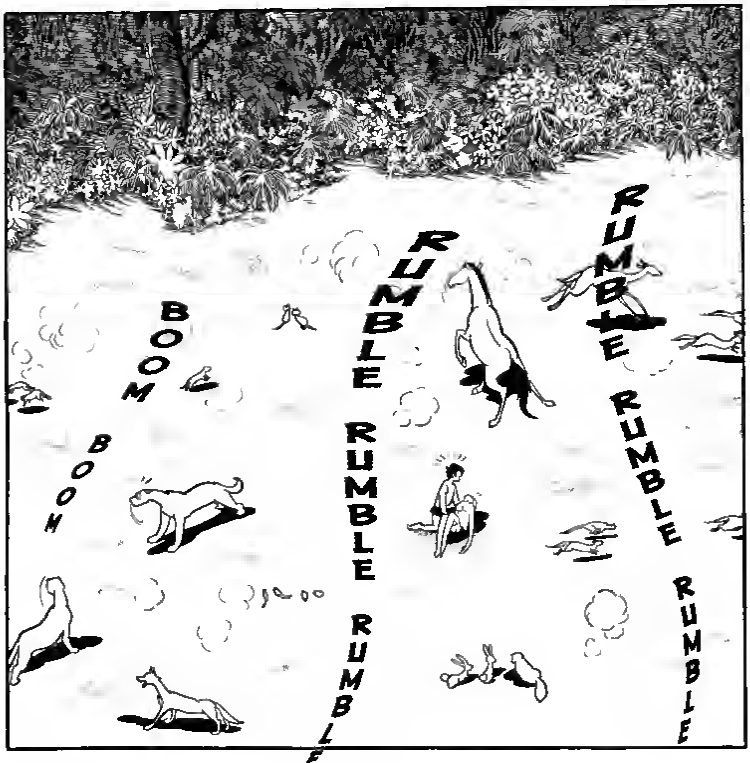
I WON'T FORGET YOU... AND ONE DAY, WE'LL MEET AGAIN AND LAUGH ABOUT IT ALL!
NO... FORGET ME!
IT'S BETTER THAT WAY FOR BOTH OF US. MEMORIES CAN BE PAINFUL...
ARE THESE BAD MEMORIES?
...
ARE THEY? ANSWER ME, NAOMI!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
LOOK... THE ANIMALS ARE HERE— THEY'VE SENSED SOME-THING'S UP.

WHAT HAVE WE HERE? YOU LOOK JUST LIKE A PAIR OF CASTAWAYS!
WE ARE! OUR PLANE CRASHED, AND WE WASHED UP HERE.
JUST THE TWO OF YOU, EH? HUBBA HUBBA!
HEHEHE HEHEHE.
WIPE THOSE GRINS OFF YOUR FACES.
LET'S GET THE ANIMALS ON BOARD.
ARE YOU KIDDING? WHO'S GOING TO LOOK AFTER THEM?
THESE ANIMALS HAVE LIVED PEACEFULLY ON THIS ISLAND FOR DECADES!
WE CAN'T JUST LET THEM DIE! WE MUST RESCUE THEM!
THIS IS HOW YOU HANDLE THAT LOT...
BANG!
BANG!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU... HOW DARE YOU KILL THEM LIKE THAT?
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
YOU SAVAGES!
WHOAAA!

OW!
GRRR
BANG
THUD
NAOMI!!

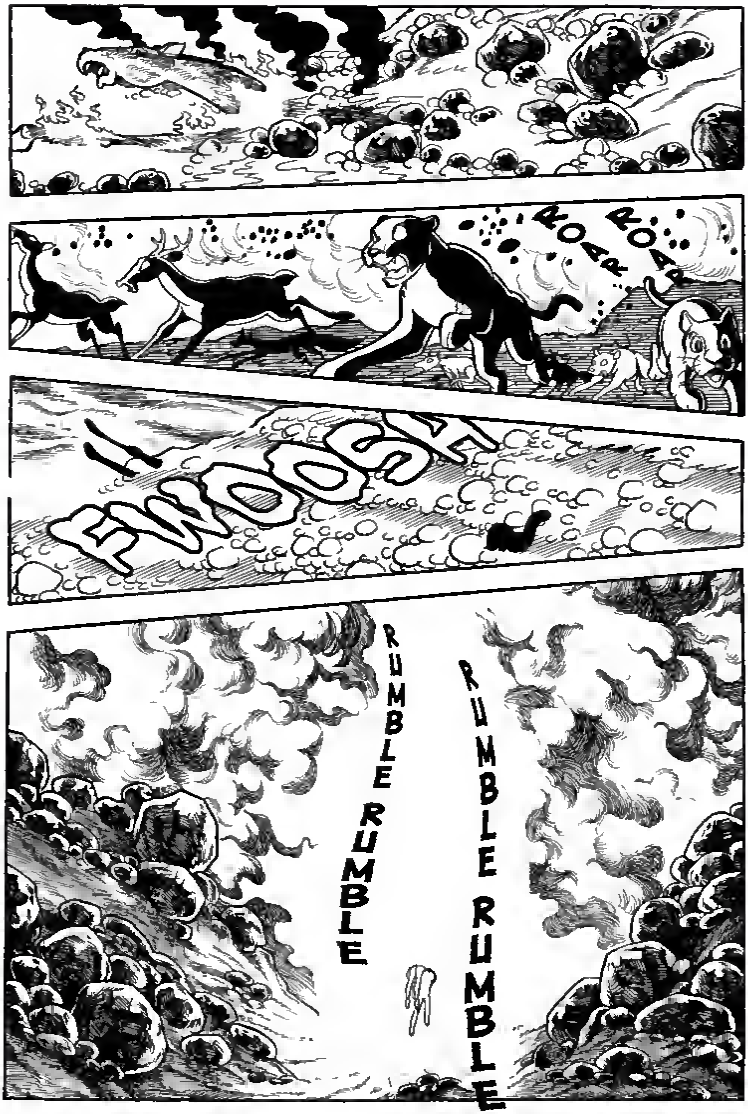

NAOMI! HANG IN THERE!
YOU CAN'T DIE! HOLD ON!


BOOM
BOOM
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

KABOOM!

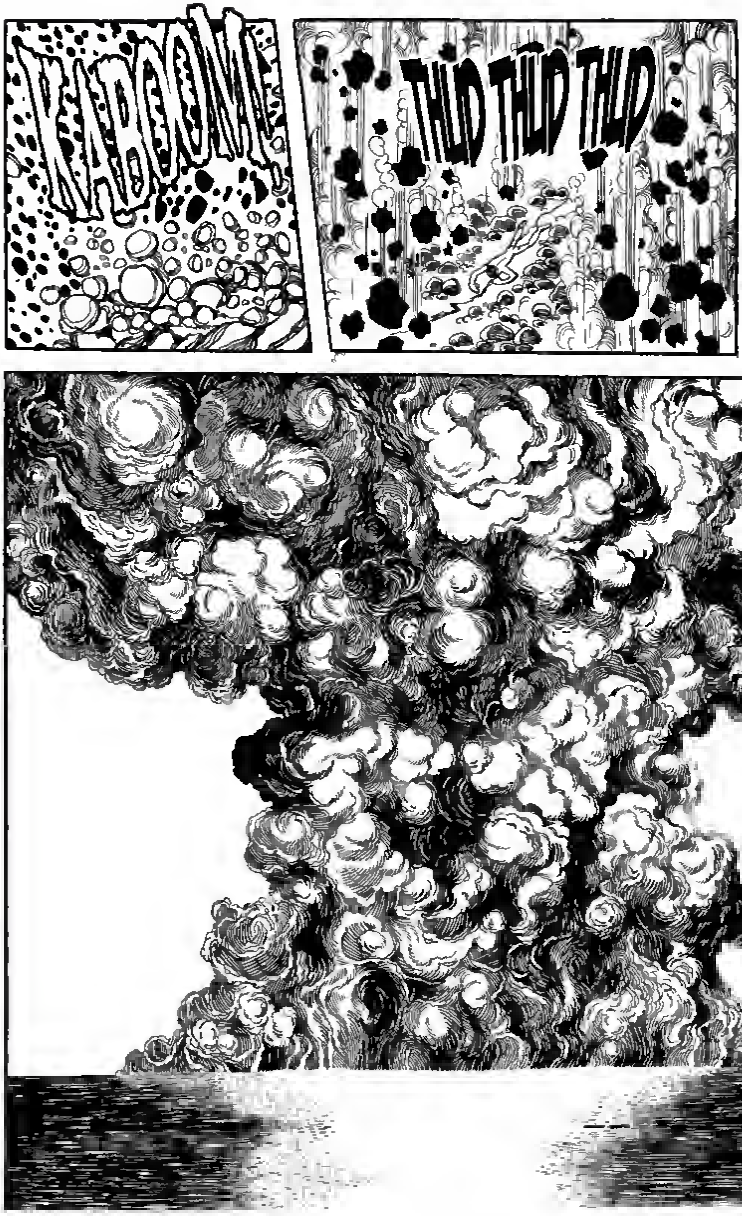
THERE IT GOES!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

ROARRR
NEIGH!
EEP!
URR!
SON OF A... THE SHIP'S CHUGGING OFF AT FULL SPEED!
WE TWO ARE STICKING TOGETHER... BUT YOU GUYS TRY TO SAVE YOURSELVES IF YOU CAN!
BEST OF LUCK, ALL OF YOU!
ROAR
ROAR


ROAR
ROAR
FWOOSH
RUMBLE RUMBLE
RUMBLE RUMBLE

RUMBLE
WHIZZZ
WHIZZZ
WHIZZZ
WHIZZZ
NAOMI, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS ...
I'LL GET YOU SAFELY OFF THIS ISLAND.
WHOA!
CRACK

ARGH! NO!
CREAKKK
GRRRR
QUASHH
NAOMI ...
I WANTED AT LEAST...
TO TALK AND LAUGH WITH YOU... TOGETHER ...

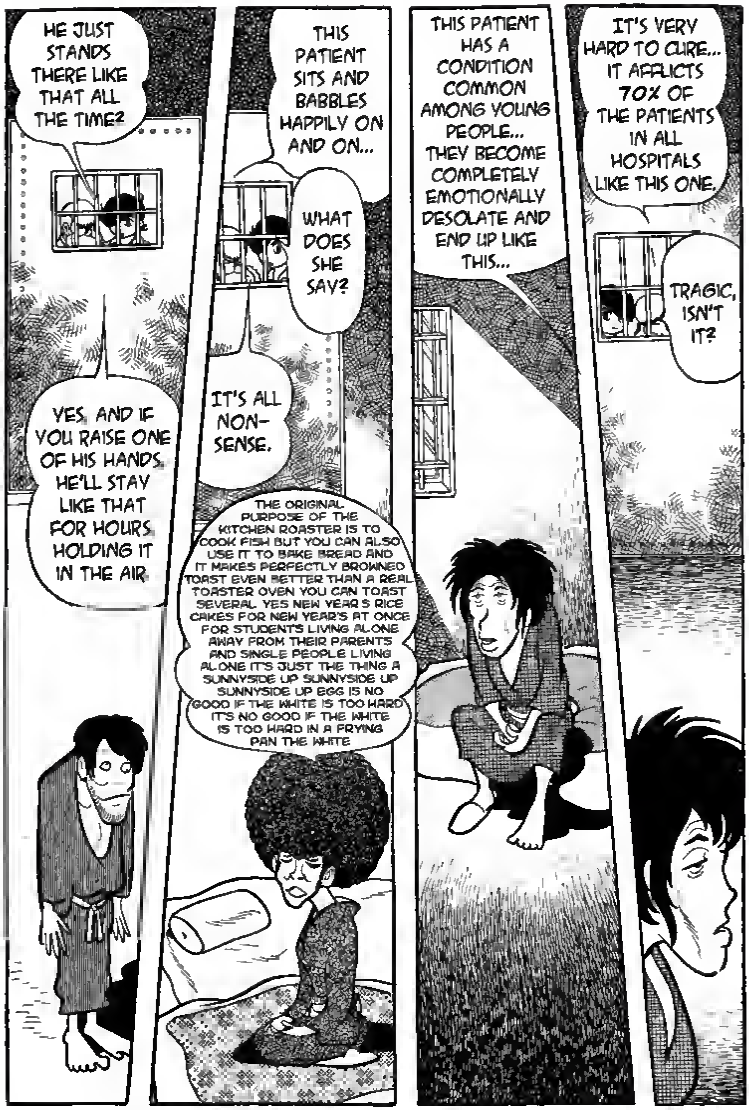

KABOOM
THUD THUD THUD

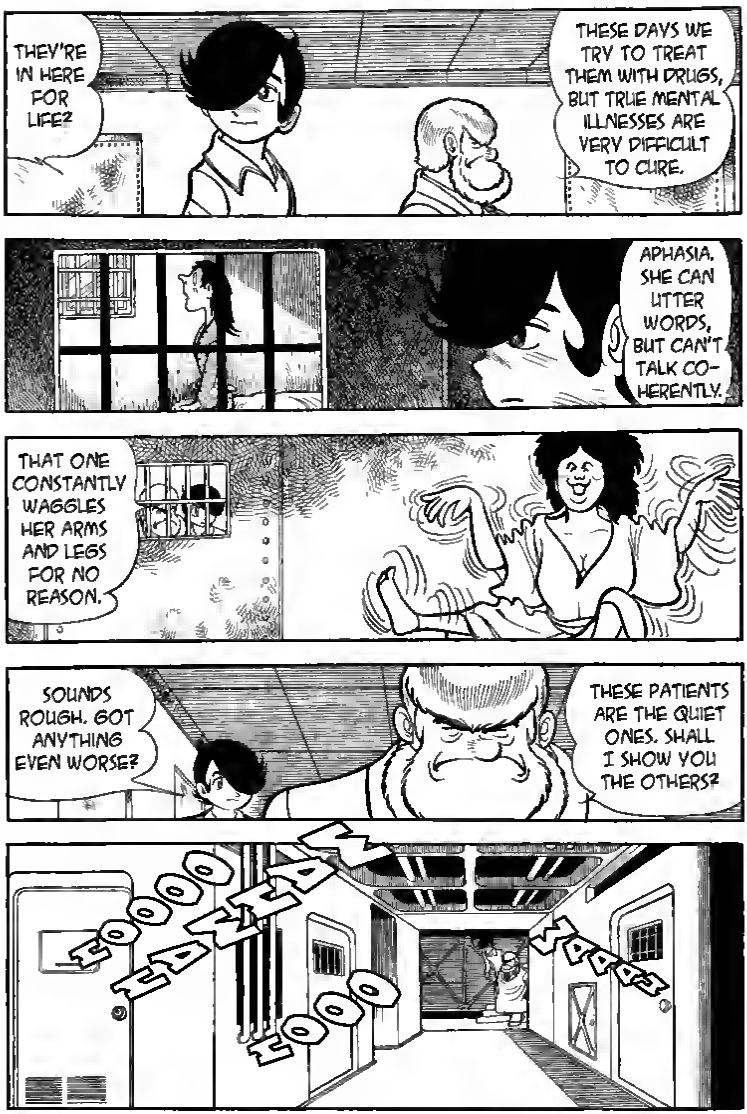
UGHH ...
SNAP
WHEW!

AH!
WHERE AM I?
IN THE HOSPITAL. REMEMBER MY FACE?
...
SO ALL THE ANIMALS ON THE ISLAND LIVED TOGETHER IN PEACEFUL LOVE, EH?
H-HOW DO YOU KNOW?
YOU WERE ALONE WITH A WOMAN THERE. YOU LOOKED AT THE ANIMALS...
AND LITTLE BY LITTLE, YOU LEARNED ABOUT LOVE.
THAT WAS NO DREAM.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT, DOCTOR?
HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT I DREAMT?

I USED SUGGESTION... HYPNOSIS, YOU MIGHT SAY.
I PUT YOU IN A SUGGESTIBLE STATE AND THEN TOLD YOU THE STORY. I MADE IT ALL UP, BUT YOU FELT YOU WERE REALLY LIVING THROUGH IT.
BASTARD! TRYING TO PLAY ME FOR A FOOL?
...
HOW LONG DO YOU INTEND TO KEEP ME LOCKED UP HERE, DOC?
YOU'RE NOT ILL, SHOGO... BUT THE WINDOW TO YOUR HEART IS BLOCKED SOMEHOW.
UNLIKE THE OTHER PATIENTS HERE, YOU COULD RECOVER WITH JUST A LITTLE PUSH IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.
THAT'S WHY...

I'M TRYING DIFFERENT METHODS WITH YOU, LOOKING FOR THE KEY.
SHALL WE GO OUT INTO THE COURTYARD? IT'S A NICE DAY, AND YOU CAN GET SOME EXERCISE.
IS THIS THE WARD?
YES. SEE THE PATIENTS INSIDE?

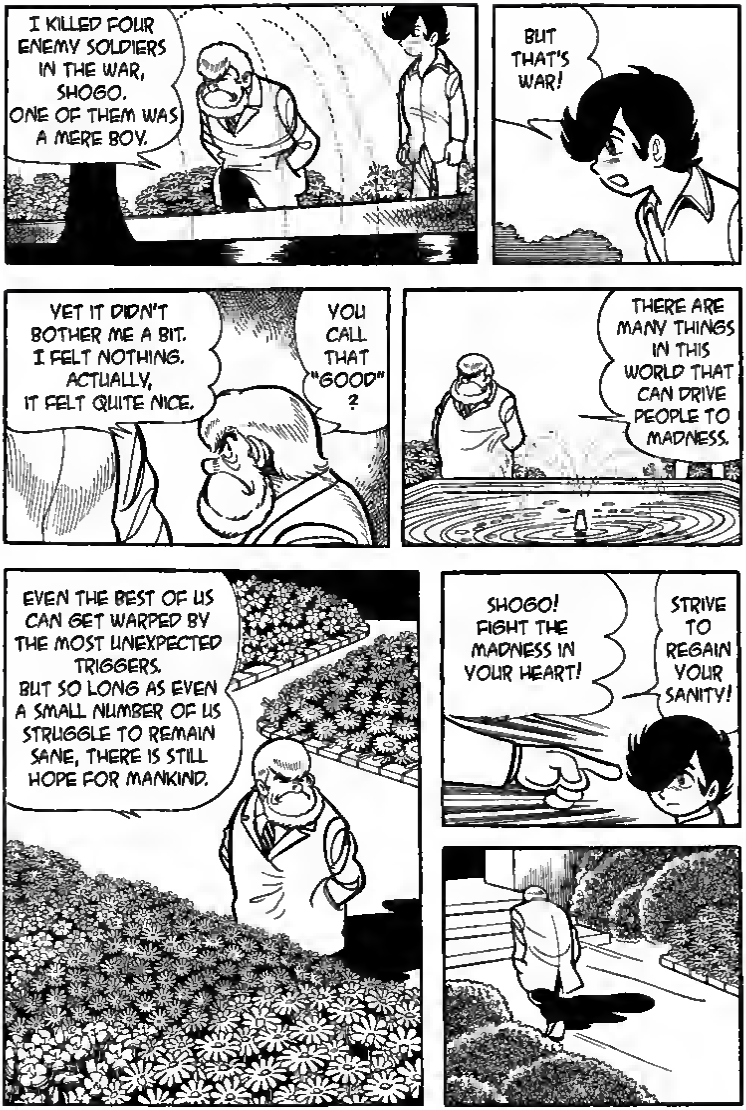

HE JUST STANDS THERE LIKE THAT ALL THE TIME?
YES, AND IF YOU RAISE ONE OF HIS HANDS, HE'LL STAY LIKE THAT FOR HOURS, HOLDING IT IN THE AIR.
THIS PATIENT SITS AND BABBLES HAPPILY ON AND ON...
WHAT DOES SHE SAY?
IT'S ALL NON-SENSE.
THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF THE KITCHEN ROASTER IS TO COOK FISH BUT YOU CAN ALSO USE IT TO BAKE BREAD AND IT MAKES PERFECTLY BROWNED TOAST EVEN BETTER THAN A REAL TOASTER OVEN YOU CAN TOAST SEVERAL YES NEW YEAR'S RICE CAKES FOR NEW YEAR'S AT ONCE FOR STUDENTS LIVING ALONE AWAY FROM THEIR PARENTS AND SINGLE PEOPLE LIVING ALONE IT'S JUST THE THING A SUNNYSIDE UP SUNNYSIDE UP SUNNYSIDE UP EGG IS NO GOOD IF THE WHITE IS TOO HARD IT'S NO GOOD IF THE WHITE IS TOO HARD IN A FRYING PAN THE WHITE
THIS PATIENT HAS A CONDITION COMMON AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE... THEY BECOME COMPLETELY EMOTIONALLY DESOLATE AND END UP LIKE THIS...
IT'S VERY HARD TO CURE... IT AFFLICTS 70% OF THE PATIENTS IN ALL HOSPITALS LIKE THIS ONE.
TRAGIC, ISN'T IT?

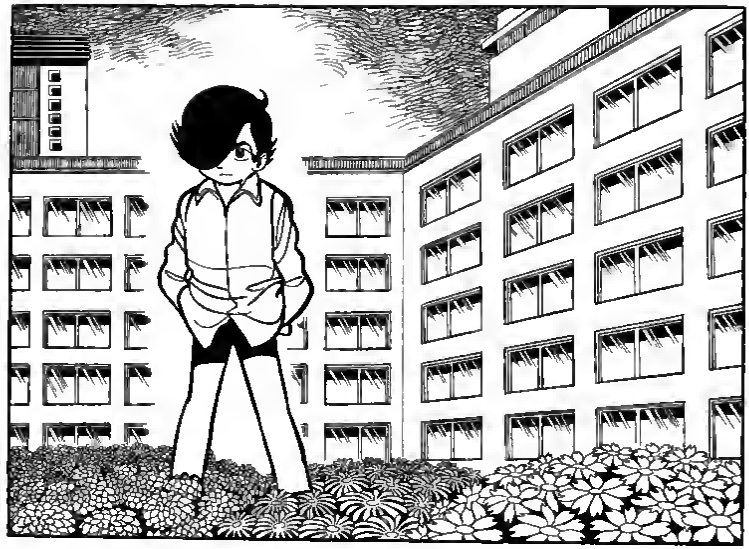

THEY'RE IN HERE FOR LIFE?
THESE DAYS WE TRY TO TREAT THEM WITH DRUGS, BUT TRUE MENTAL ILLNESSES ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO CURE.
APHASIA. SHE CAN UTTER WORDS, BUT CAN'T TALK COHERENTLY.
THAT ONE CONSTANTLY WAGGLES HER ARMS AND LEGS FOR NO REASON.
SOUNDS ROUGH. GOT ANYTHING EVEN WORSE?
THESE PATIENTS ARE THE QUIET ONES. SHALL I SHOW YOU THE OTHERS?
KOOOO
KEKEKEK
KOO
KOOO

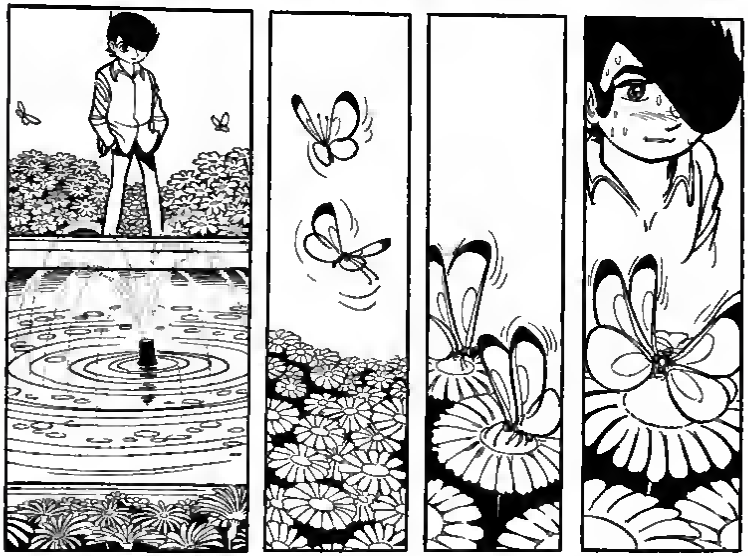
AAAAH
AAAAH
AAAAH
UGH
AH
OH OH
OOOH
OWWW!
OPIUM WITHDRAWAL. THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT HE MIGHT DO.
HOMICIDAL PERVERSION. KILLED FIVE PEOPLE...

SHE FEELS ABSOLUTELY NO GUILT OVER IT. FOR HER, PEOPLE DYING IS THE FUNNIEST THING EVER.
MASOCHISM. SHE TAKES PLEASURE IN INJURING HERSELF.
SHE'D LOVE FOR SOMEONE TO TORMENT HER OR BEAT HER HALF TO DEATH.
WANT TO SEE EVEN WORSE?
...WHERE DO I FALL IN ALL OF THIS?
IF YOUR PSYCHE CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE
YOU'LL BE JOINING THIS CREW BEFORE LONG.
HEHE, WOW! THERE WERE A LOT OF WEIRDOS IN JUVENILE DETENTION, BUT THIS PLACE TAKES THE CAKE!

DON'T BE AN IDIOT! YOU CAN'T GIVE UP HOPE LIKE THAT. YOU'RE GOING TO GET BETTER AND GET OUT OF THIS PLACE!
FINE, DOC, LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION.
HOW MANY TRULY GOOD PEOPLE ARE THERE OUT IN SOCIETY?
MY MOTHER FOOLED AROUND WITH DOZENS OF MEN AND ONLY HAD ME BECAUSE SHE HAD NO CHOICE!
SHE HAD NO PROBLEM LYING TO ALL OF THEM!
WAS SHE GOOD? AND IF SO, HOW COME I ENDED UP THIS WAY?
...
DO YOU THINK I'M A GOOD PERSON, SHOGO?
YOU'RE A DOCTOR, SO YOU MUST BE A PRETTY DECENT MAN.
I...


I KILLED FOUR ENEMY SOLDIERS IN THE WAR, SHOGO. ONE OF THEM WAS A MERE BOY.
BUT THAT'S WAR!
YET IT DIDN'T BOTHER ME A BIT. I FELT NOTHING. ACTUALLY, IT FELT QUITE NICE.
YOU CALL THAT "GOOD"?
THERE ARE MANY THINGS IN THIS WORLD THAT CAN DRIVE PEOPLE TO MADNESS.
EVEN THE BEST OF US CAN GET WARPED BY THE MOST UNEXPECTED TRIGGERS. BUT SO LONG AS EVEN A SMALL NUMBER OF US STRUGGLE TO REMAIN SANE, THERE IS STILL HOPE FOR MANKIND.
SHOGO! FIGHT THE MADNESS IN YOUR HEART!
STRIVE TO REGAIN YOUR SANITY!

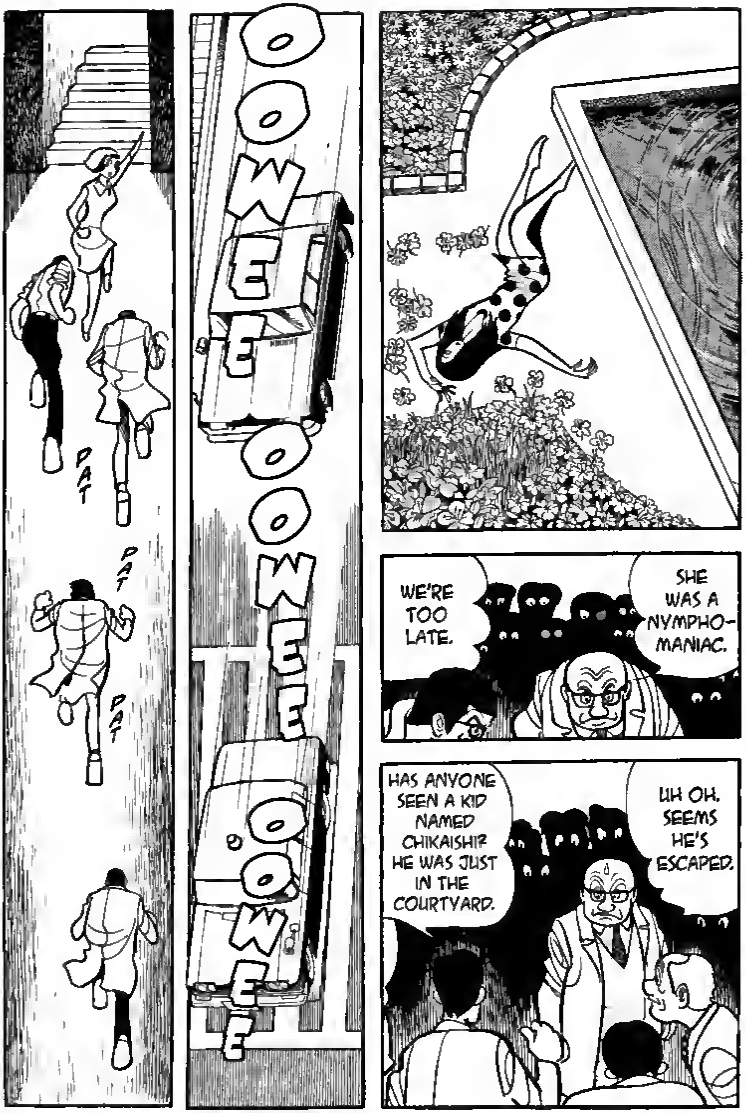


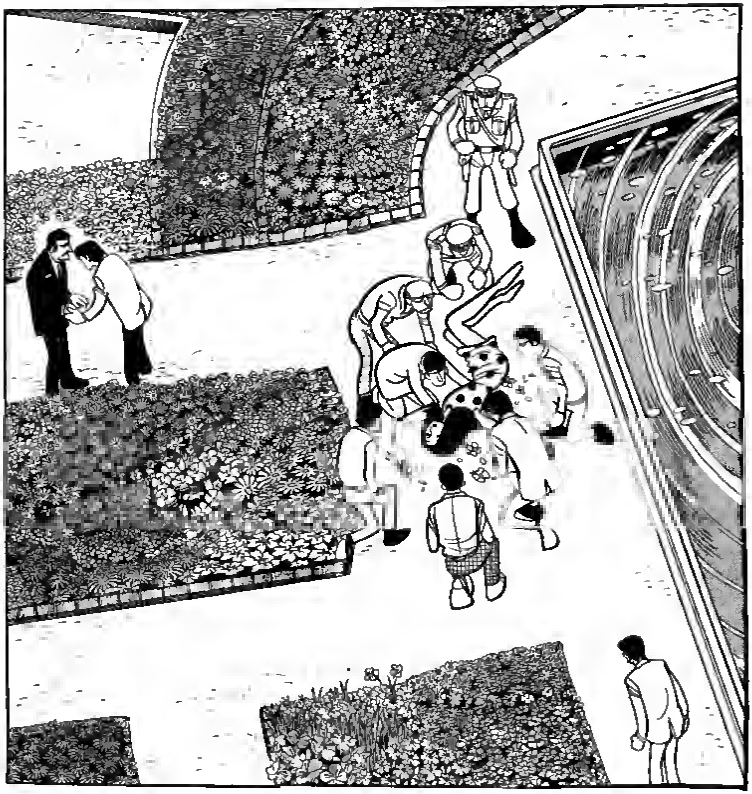


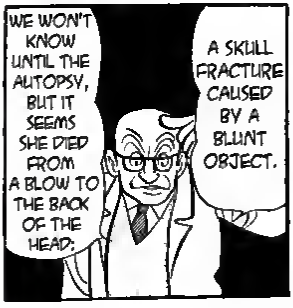
CRUSH
CRUSH
CRUSH

AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL?
DO YOU LIKE FLOWERS, TOO?
...
THEY SMELL SO NICE!
THEY REMIND ME OF THE WILD-FLOWERS IN THE JAPANESE ALPS!
I FELL IN LOVE WITH A MAN THERE ONCE.
...
IT WAS DIVINE, LYING TOGETHER AMIDST THE ROMANTIC AROMA OF FLOWERS...

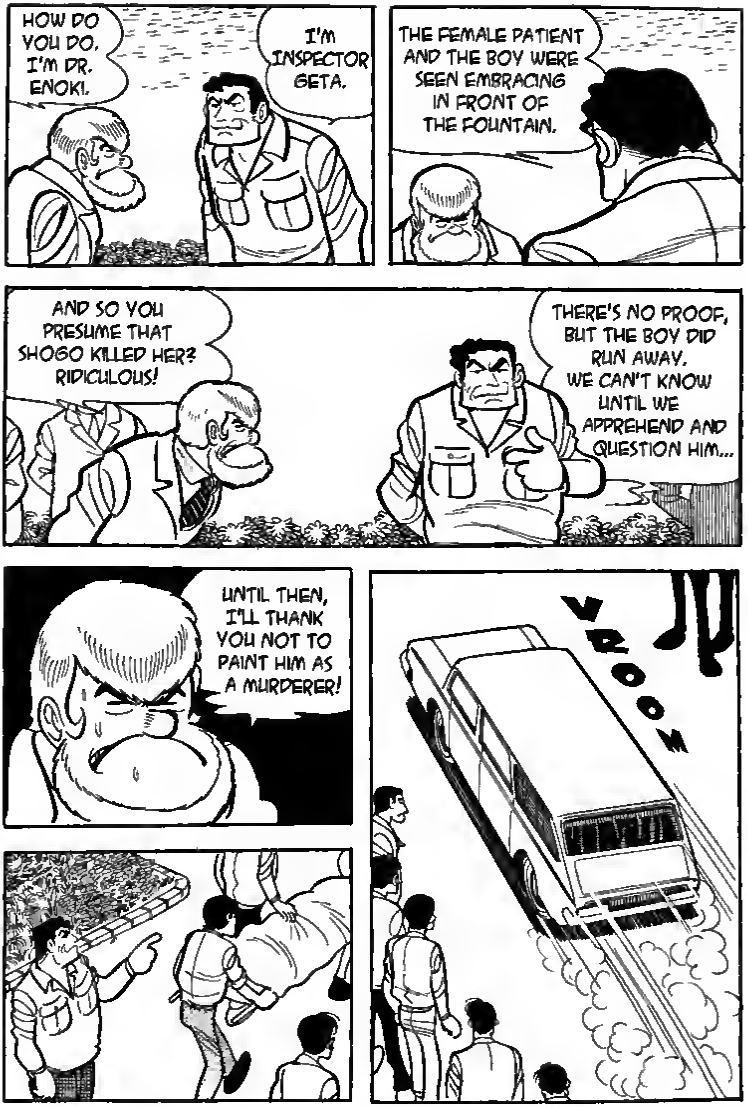
LIKE THIS...
DON'T RUN AWAY! YOU CAN'T! HEE HEE HEE...
LET'S BE SWEET-HEARTS!
STOP IT!
THRUSH
AAAAH!


OOWEE OOWEE
PAT
PAT
PAT
WE'RE TOO LATE.
SHE WAS A NYMPHO-MANIAC.
HAS ANYONE SEEN A KID NAMED CHIKAISHI? HE WAS JUST IN THE COURTYARD.
UH OH. SEEMS HE'S ESCAPED.

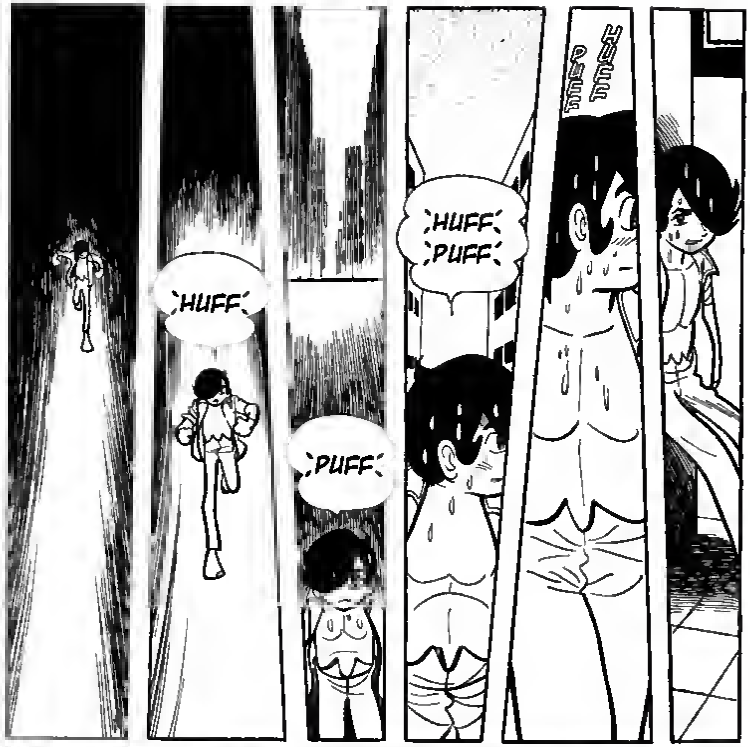


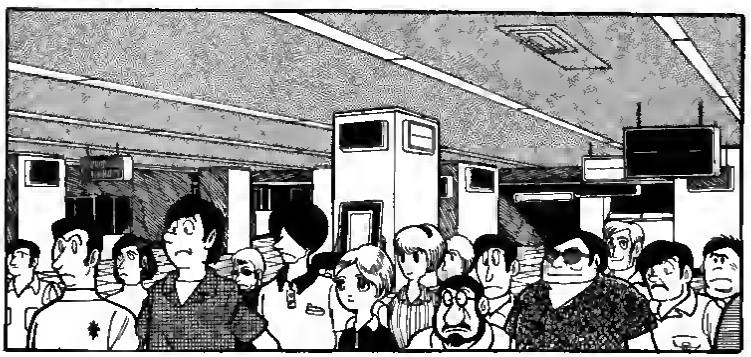

WE WON'T KNOW UNTIL THE AUTOPSY, BUT IT SEEMS SHE DIED FROM A BLOW TO THE BACK OF THE HEAD.
A SKULL FRACTURE CAUSED BY A BLUNT OBJECT.

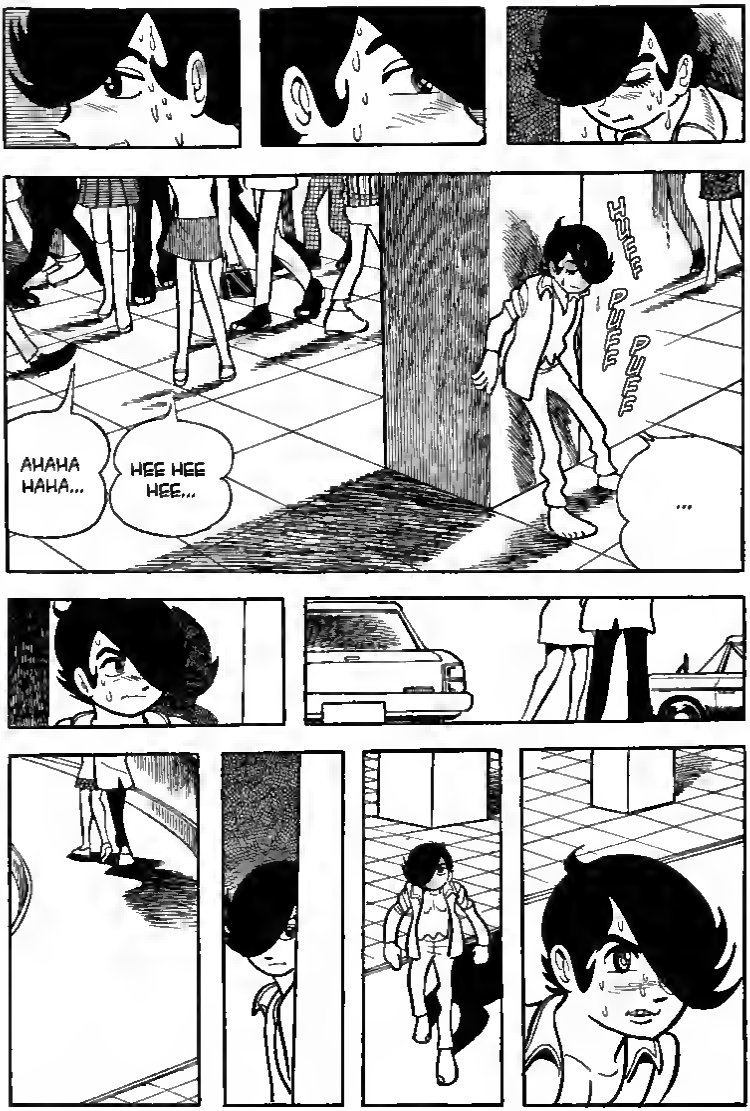
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT SHOGO?
HERE'S THE DOCTOR TREATING THE BOY WHO ESCAPED.

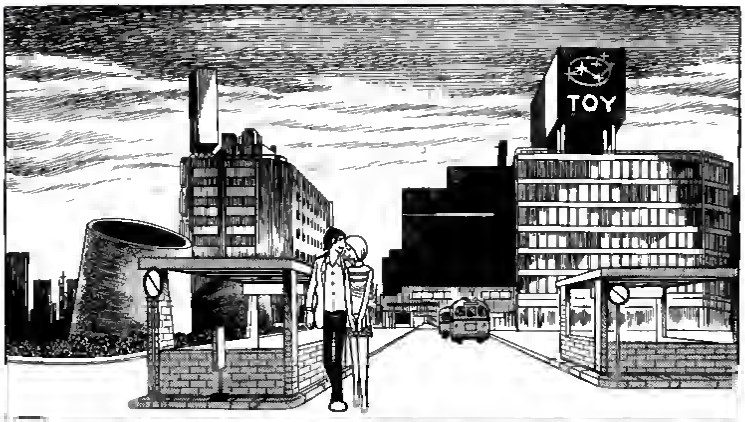

HOW DO YOU DO, I'M DR. ENOKI.
I'M INSPECTOR GETA.
THE FEMALE PATIENT AND THE BOY WERE SEEN EMBRACING IN FRONT OF THE FOUNTAIN.
AND SO YOU PRESUME THAT SHOGO KILLED HER? RIDICULOUS!
THERE'S NO PROOF, BUT THE BOY DID RUN AWAY. WE CAN'T KNOW UNTIL WE APPREHEND AND QUESTION HIM...
UNTIL THEN, I'LL THANK YOU NOT TO PAINT HIM AS A MURDERER!
VROOM

WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT SHOGO?
SEARCH THE AREA. HE CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR!
DR. ENOKI! A BOY MATCHING SHOGO'S DESCRIPTION WAS SIGHTED IN SHINJUKU!
WHAT ?


HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF

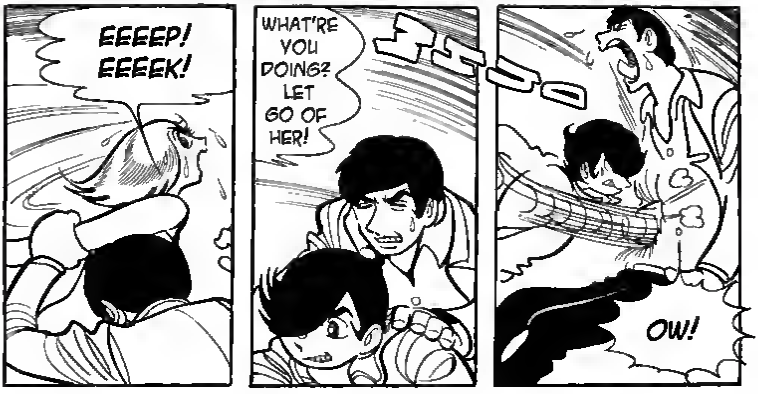


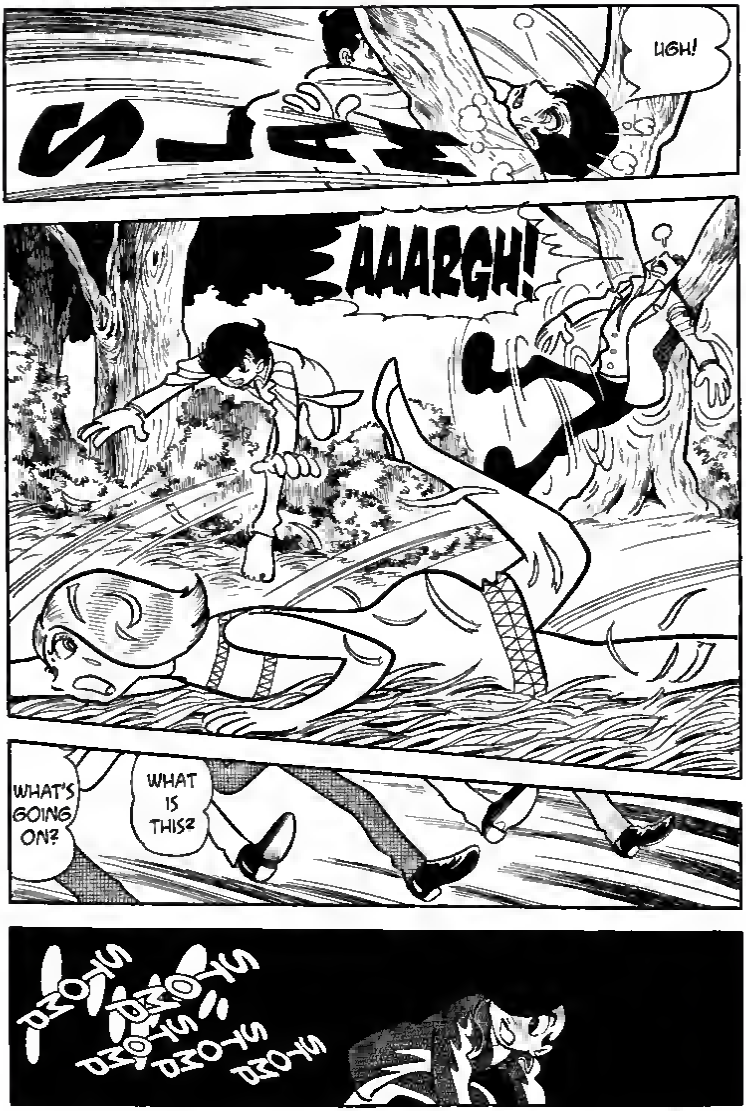

AHAHA HAHA...
HEE HEE HEE...
...

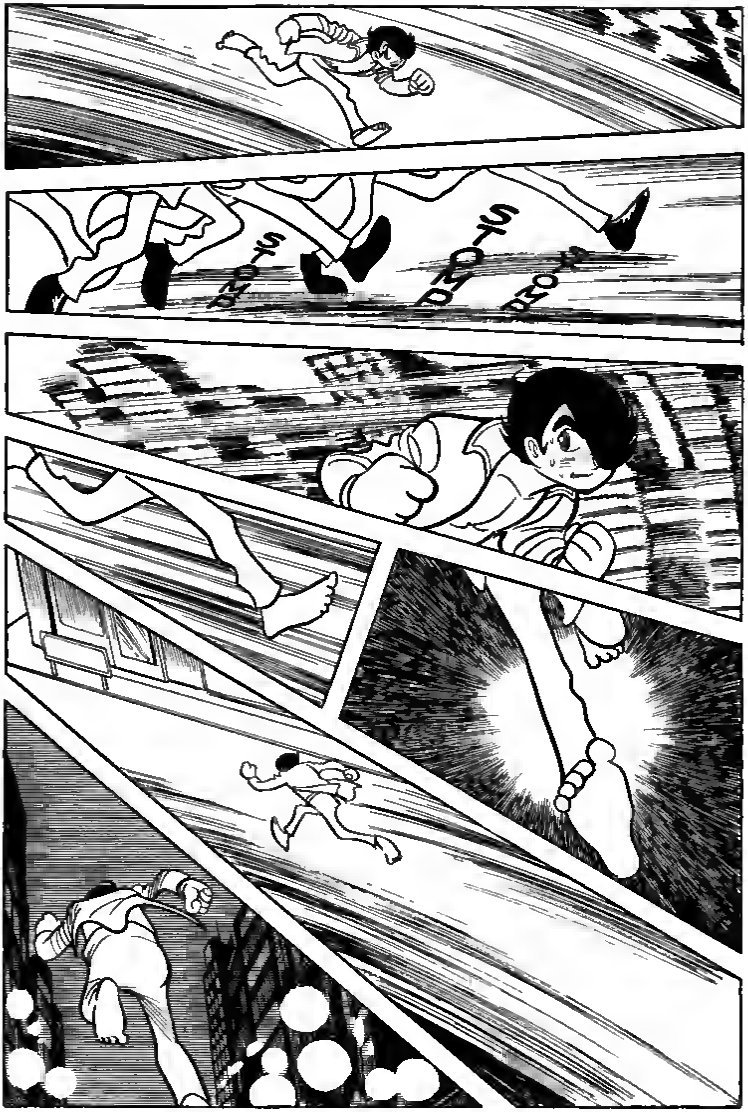

TOY

DARLING, THERE'S A STRANGE BOY FOLLOWING US!
HEY, WHAT GIVES? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

EEEEEEEEK!


EEEEP! EEEEK!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING? LET GO OF HER!
ウーン
OW!


SLASH
UGH!
AAARGH!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT IS THIS?
DRONN
DRONN
DRONN
DRONN
DRONN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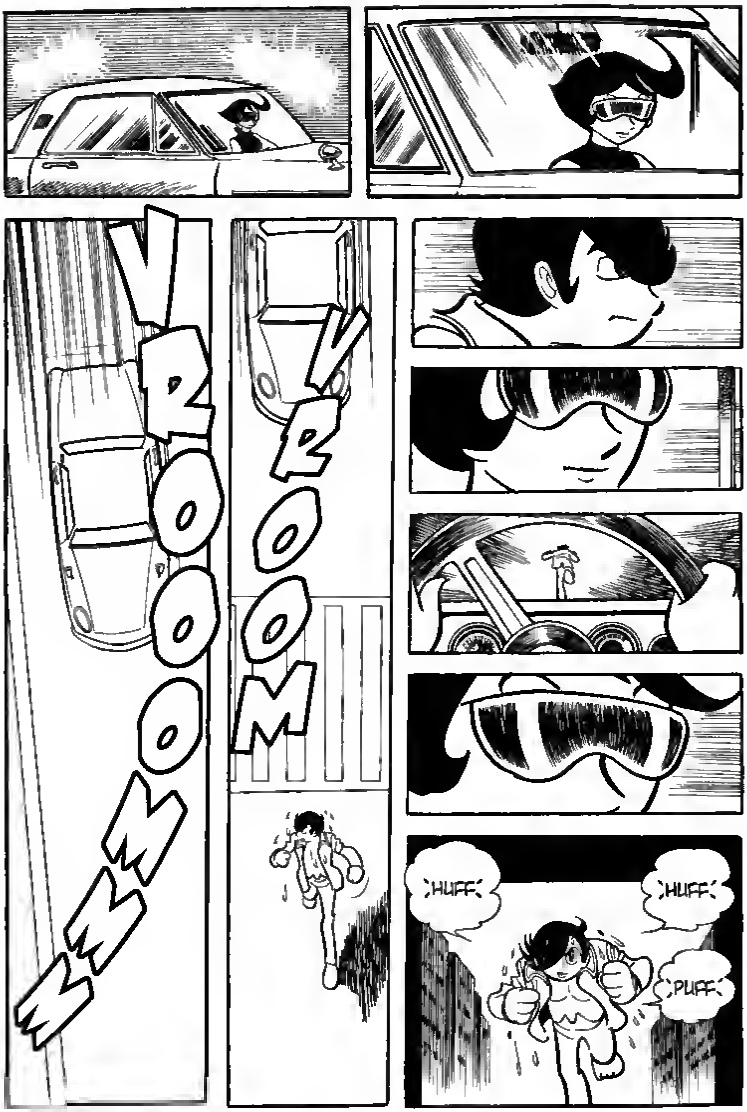
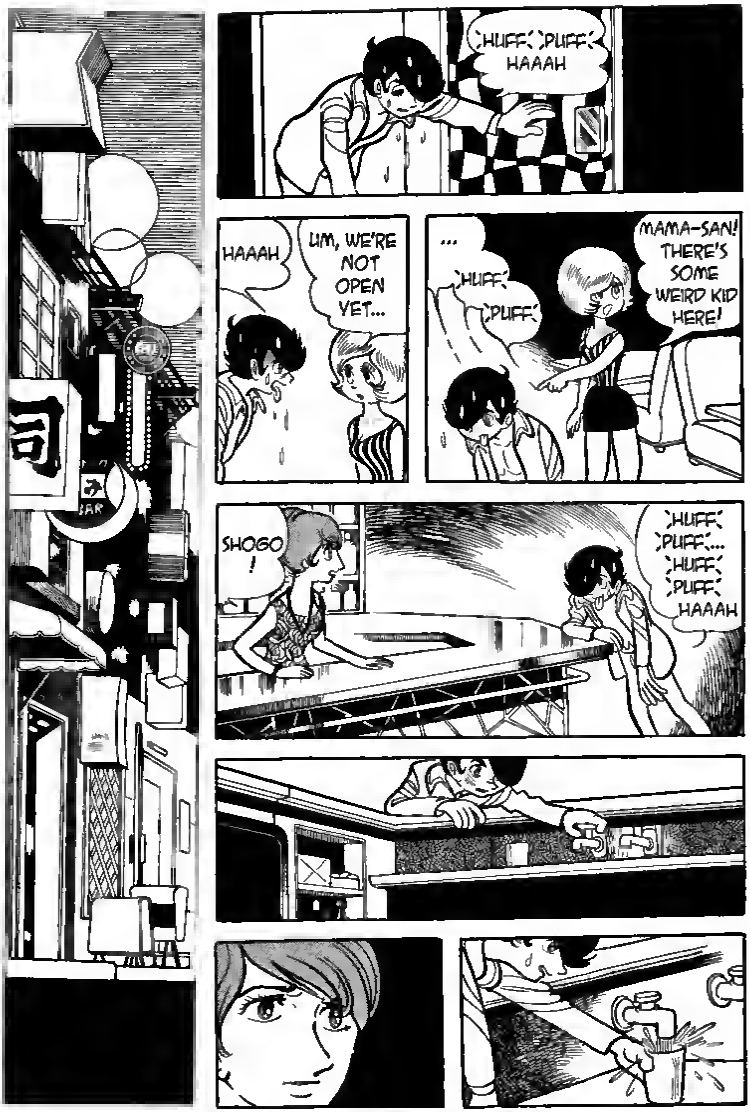

VROOM
VROOM
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF

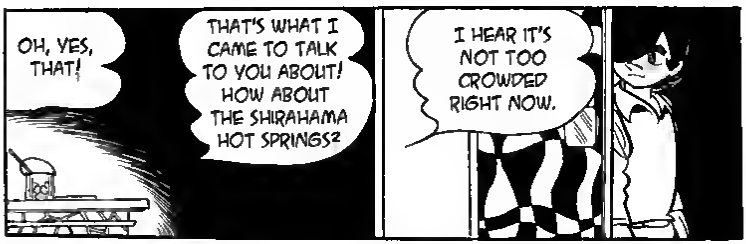

`HUFF, `PUFF, HAAAH
HAAAH
UM, WE'RE NOT OPEN YET...
...
`HUFF,
`PUFF,
MAMA-SAN! THERE'S SOME WEIRD KID HERE!
SHOGO !
`HUFF, `PUFF,... `HUFF, `PUFF, HAAAH

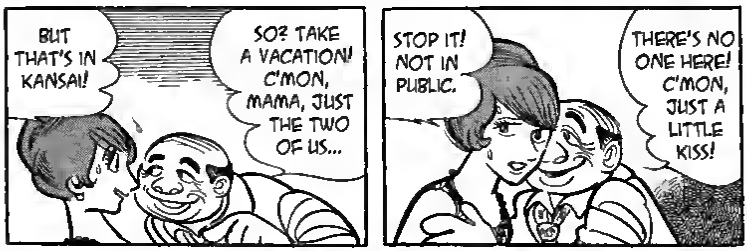
:GULP:
:GULP:
:GULP:
:GULP:
AHHH
WHY, JUST LOOK AT YOU! WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
HAAH HAAH HAAH
YOU'RE FILTHY! AND BAREFOOT, TOO. YOU LOOK LIKE A TRAMP!
THERE'S A BARTENDER'S UNIFORM IN BACK. CLEAN YOURSELF UP AND PUT IT ON!
GO ON, GET BACK THERE! YOU'RE A DISGRACE!
WHO WAS THAT?
NOBODY, REALLY. JUST... MY SON.
YOUR SON? BUT YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO HAVE A KID THAT BIG!
WELL, IT'S EMBARRASSING... HE'S A BIT OF A PROBLEM CHILD. DON'T TELL ANYONE, OKAY?

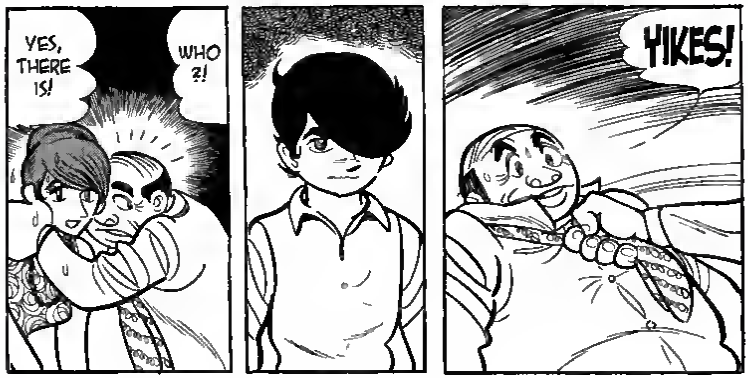
BAR
...
DO YOU HAVE ANY MONEY, MAMA?
GIVE US A MOMENT, PLEASE.
SURE!
MONEY? I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN THE HOSPITAL!
I WAS... I RAN AWAY!
WELL, THAT WAS STUPID! YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST STAYED PUT!
WHAT DO YOU WANT THE MONEY FOR?
I WANT TO GO FAR AWAY!
I KILLED SOME PEOPLE, SEE.
YOU WHAT?!

I KILLED A WOMAN AT THE HOSPITAL, AND ONE IN SHINJUKU.
THAT CAN'T BE...
MAMA, HELP ME OUT. YOU CAN FORK OVER SOME DOUGH FOR YOUR OWN SON, CAN'T YOU?
...
FINE, HERE'S 20,000 YEN.
HURRY AND GO SOMEWHERE! IF YOU REALLY DID KILL PEOPLE, YOU'LL GET THE DEATH SENTENCE OR LIFE IN PRISON IF THEY CATCH YOU!
WELL, HELLO, MR. Y! YOU'RE EARLY TONIGHT!
WE'RE NOT OPEN YET.
C'MON, MAMA, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE STRANGERS.

I GOT MY BONUS TODAY. HEHEHE... WE DID BETTER THIS YEAR THAN LAST.
OH, REALLY? THEN YOU'LL TAKE ME ON THAT TRIP YOU PROMISED?


OH, YES, THAT!
THAT'S WHAT I CAME TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT! HOW ABOUT THE SHIRAHAMA HOT SPRINGS?
I HEAR IT'S NOT TOO CROWDED RIGHT NOW.

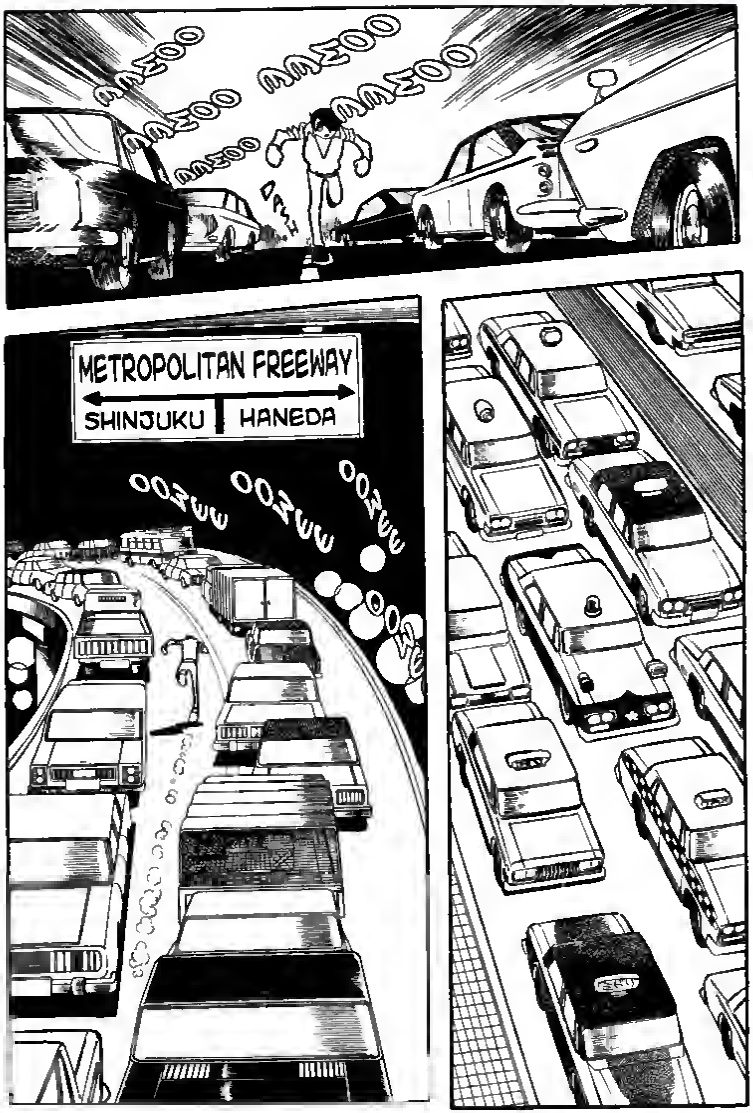

BUT THAT'S IN KANSAI!
SO? TAKE A VACATION! C'MON, MAMA, JUST THE TWO OF US...
STOP IT! NOT IN PUBLIC.
THERE'S NO ONE HERE! C'MON, JUST A LITTLE KISS!

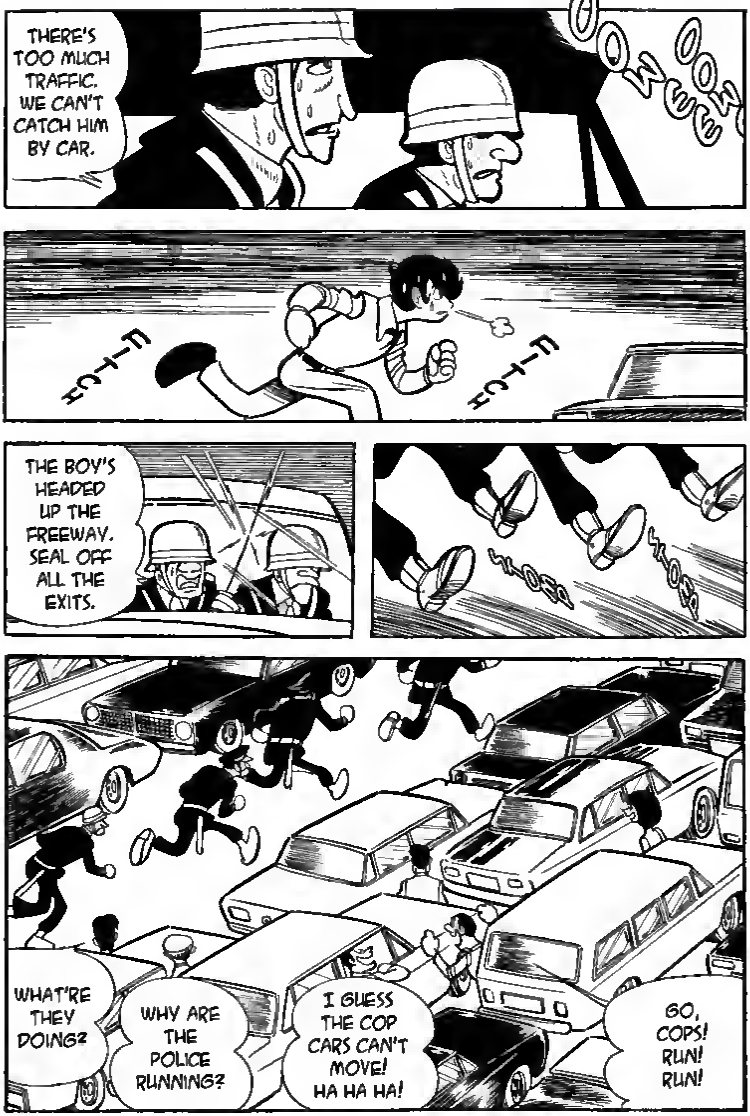

YES, THERE IS!
WHO?!
YIKES!

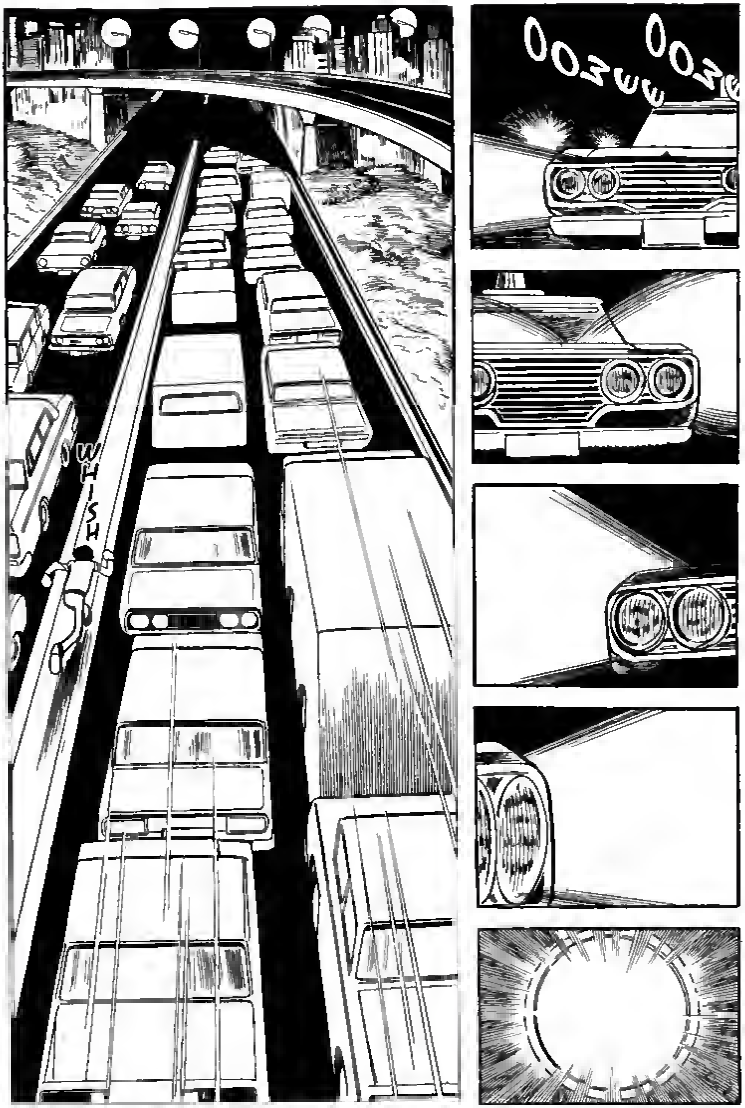
WH-WHAT THE... CUT THAT OUT! AAAAH!
HELP!
OWWW!
GET OUT! THAT WAS AN IMPORTANT CUSTOMER!
GO ON, SCRAM!
MAMA !
HEHEHE... IT'S JUST YOU AND ME, MAMA.
HOW 'BOUT A KISS, MAMA?

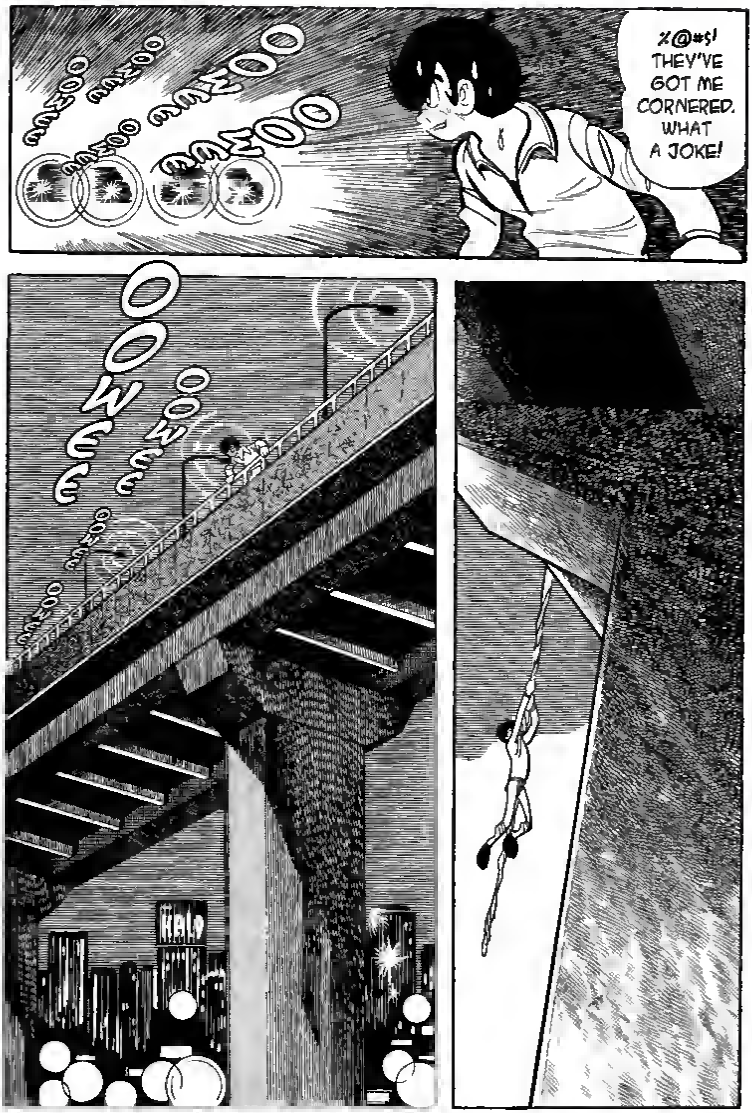
STOP IT!
SLAP
I'M CALLING THE POLICE!
I'M YOUR SON. WOULD YOU TURN IN YOUR OWN SON?
YOU'RE NOT MY SON! YOU'RE NOTHING TO ME!
...
I'M SORRY, MAMA.
HERE, YOU CAN HAVE THIS BACK, LADY.

I'VE SPOTTED THE ESCAPEE! CURRENT LOCATION...

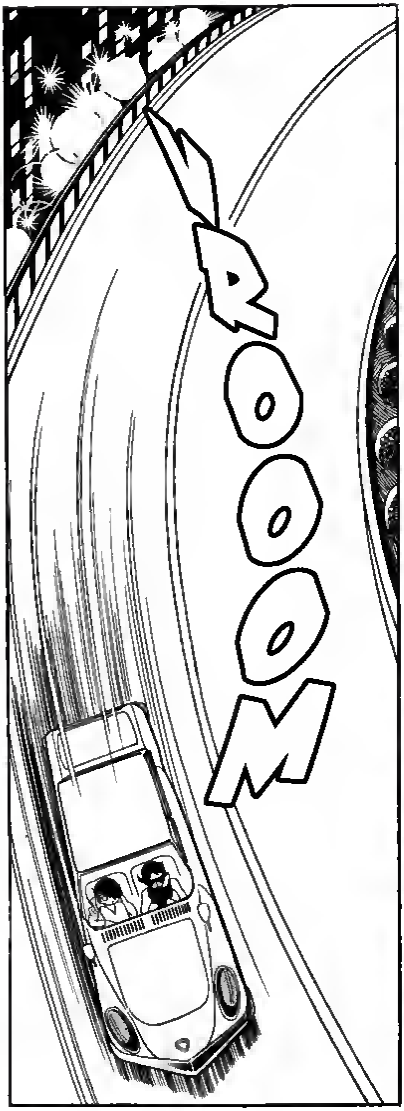

METROPOLITAN FREEWAY
SHINJUKU
HANEDA


THERE'S TOO MUCH TRAFFIC. WE CAN'T CATCH HIM BY CAR.
OOWEE OOWEE
U-HUH
U-HUH
THE BOY'S HEADED UP THE FREEWAY. SEAL OFF ALL THE EXITS.
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
WHAT'RE THEY DOING?
WHY ARE THE POLICE RUNNING?
I GUESS THE COP CARS CAN'T MOVE! HA HA HA!
GO, COPS! RUN! RUN!


WHISH


Z@#$! THEY'VE GOT ME CORNERED. WHAT A JOKE!
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
OOZE
KRLP

QUICK! GET IN!
HUH? WHO ARE YOU!?
ZOOM
WHY DID YOU...
:CHUCKLE:


VROOOM

YOUR NAME IS... SHOGO CHIKAISHI. AM I RIGHT?

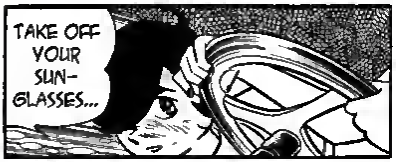
WHO ARE YOU?
ARE YOU FROM THE HOSPITAL?

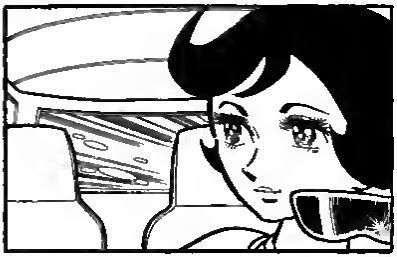
MY NAME'S HIROMI WATARI. YOU CAN CALL ME HIROMI.

SO WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
I DIDN'T ASK FOR ANYONE'S HELP!

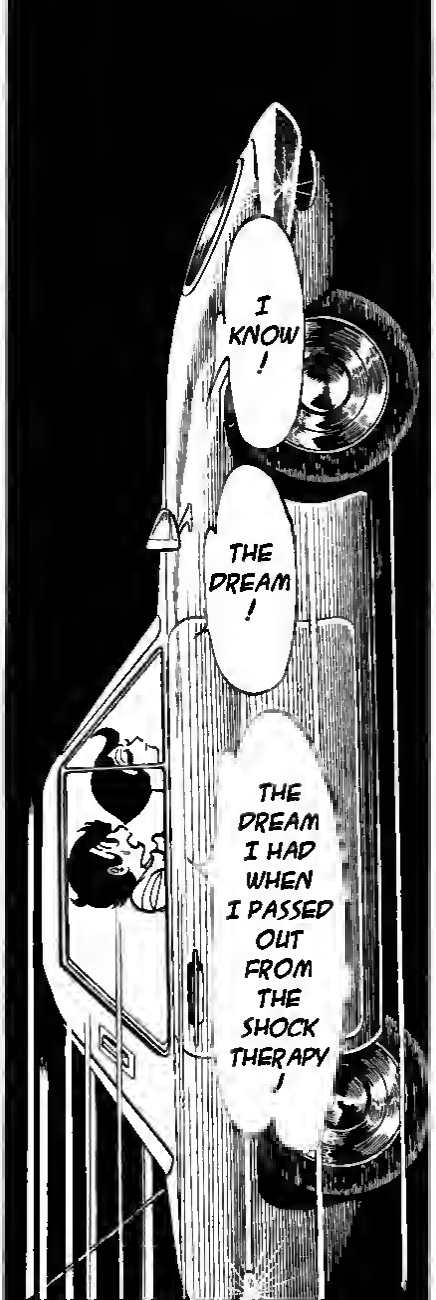
THAT'S RIGHT... YOU DIDN'T. I DID IT BECAUSE I WANTED TO.

WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?


TAKE OFF YOUR SUN-GLASSES...



I'VE SEEN YOUR FACE SOMEWHERE BEFORE! WHERE WAS IT...


I KNOW!
THE DREAM!
THE DREAM I HAD WHEN I PASSED OUT FROM THE SHOCK THERAPY!

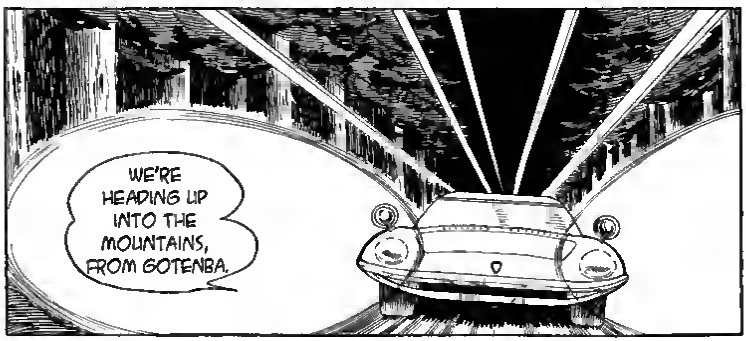
THOU SHALT LOVE ONE WOMAN AGAIN AND AGAIN. BUT BEFORE THE TWO ARE UNITED IN LOVE, ONE SHALL PERISH.
EVEN IN DEATH, THOU SHALT BE REBORN, TO UNDERGO YET ANOTHER TRIAL OF LOVE! THOU SHALT SUFFER,
FOR ETERNITY!

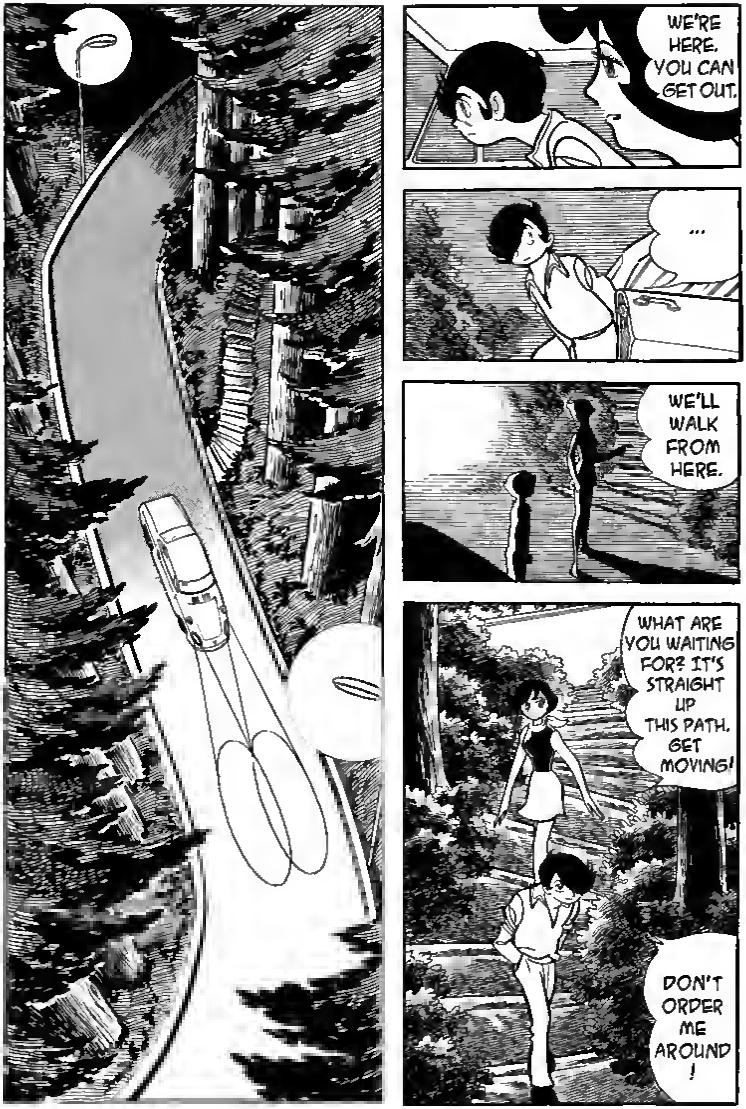
THAT'S IT!
THAT PREACHY GODDESS WHO NEARLY LECTURED ME TO DEATH!
YOU LOOK JUST LIKE HER!

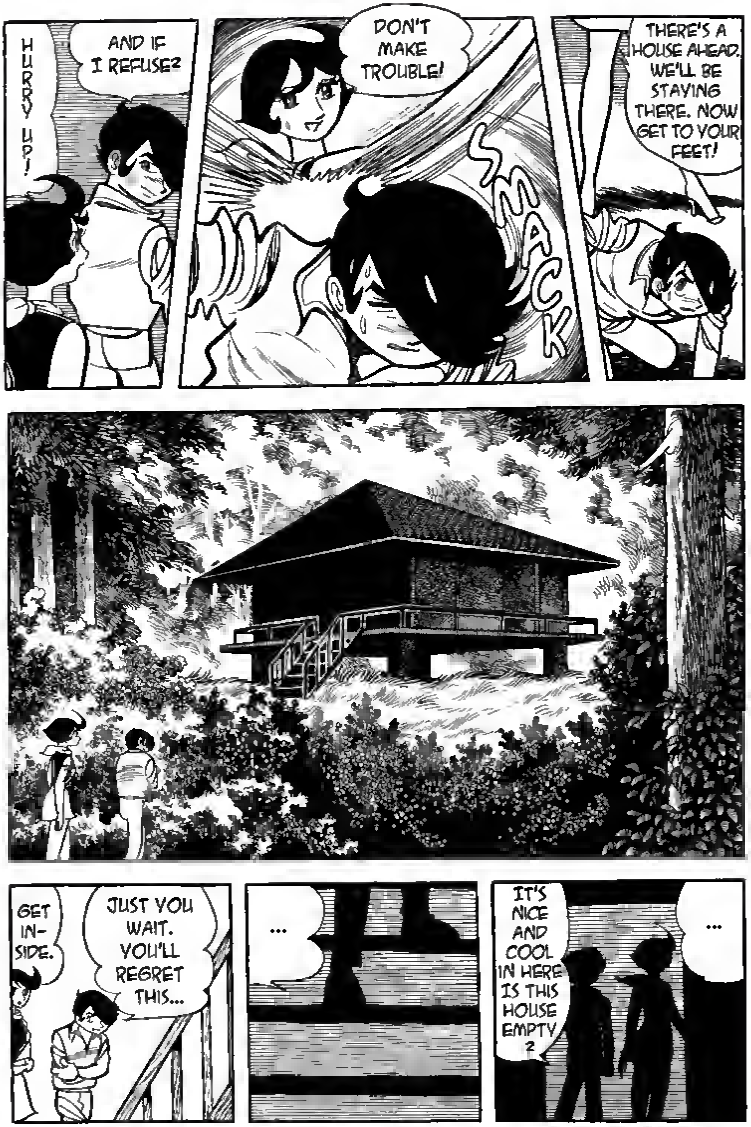
AND YOU KNEW MY NAME... ARE YOU THAT GODDESS?
NAH, THAT'S TOTALLY RIDICULOUS!
HEHEH ...
THIS IS THE TOME! EXPRESSWAY! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
DON'T WORRY. I'M HERE TO HELP.
-YAWN-
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A NAP?
WE HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO.
NO WAY! AS SOON AS I FALL ASLEEP, YOU'LL TURN ME IN TO THE POLICE!
I'M NOT FALLING FOR THAT ONE!
NOT... FALLING... ;YAWN;

UNGH

WHERE THE HELL ARE WE GOING, ANYWAY?

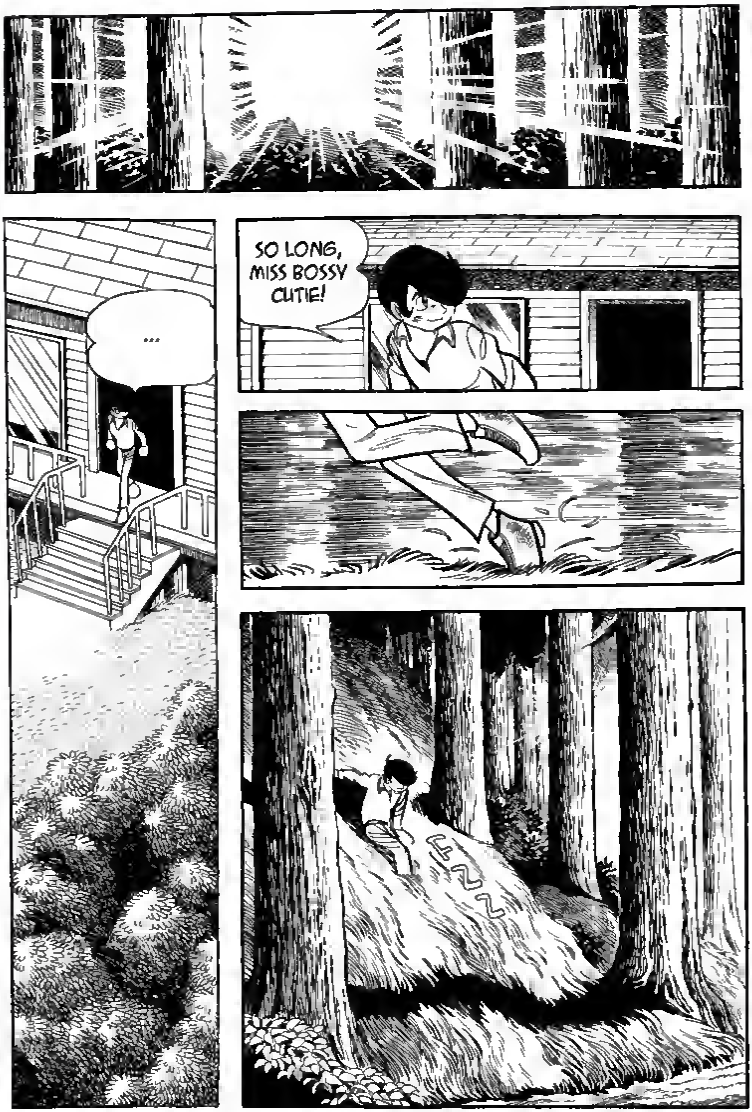

WE'RE HEADING UP INTO THE MOUNTAINS, FROM GOTENBA.


WE'RE HERE. YOU CAN GET OUT.
...
WE'LL WALK FROM HERE.
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? IT'S STRAIGHT UP THIS PATH. GET MOVING!
DON'T ORDER ME AROUND!

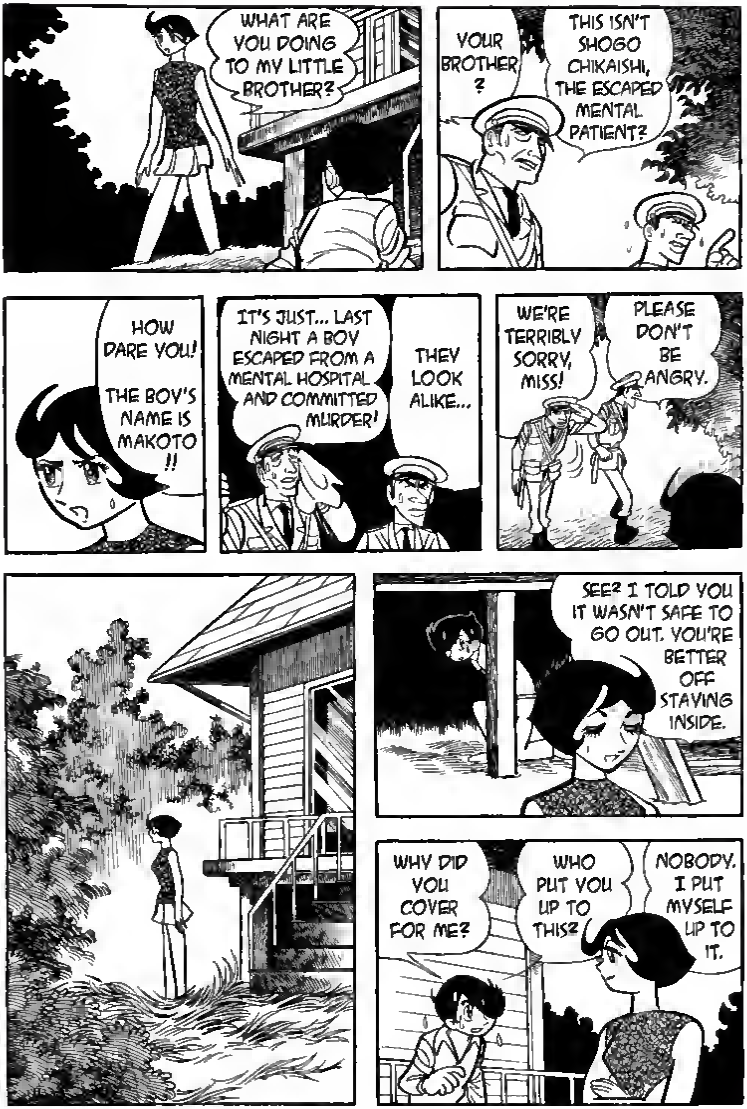

HURRY UP!
AND IF I REFUSE?
DON'T MAKE TROUBLE!
SMACK
THERE'S A HOUSE AHEAD. WE'LL BE STAYING THERE. NOW GET TO YOUR FEET!
GET IN-SIDE.
JUST YOU WAIT. YOU'LL REGRET THIS...
...
IT'S NICE AND COOL IN HERE IS THIS HOUSE EMPTY?
...

HUNGRY?
I'M NOT. WE'LL STAY HERE TONIGHT.
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO SCARE ME?
EVEN OUT HERE, YOU'LL GET NABBED IF YOU GO WANDERING AROUND.
...
IF YOU GO BACK TO TOKYO, YOU'LL BE ARRESTED IN NO TIME. YOU'RE WANTED BY THE POLICE.
HERE'S A BLANKET.
IT'S A CAGE! BLAST IT! I KNEW YOU WERE TRYING...
SWISH

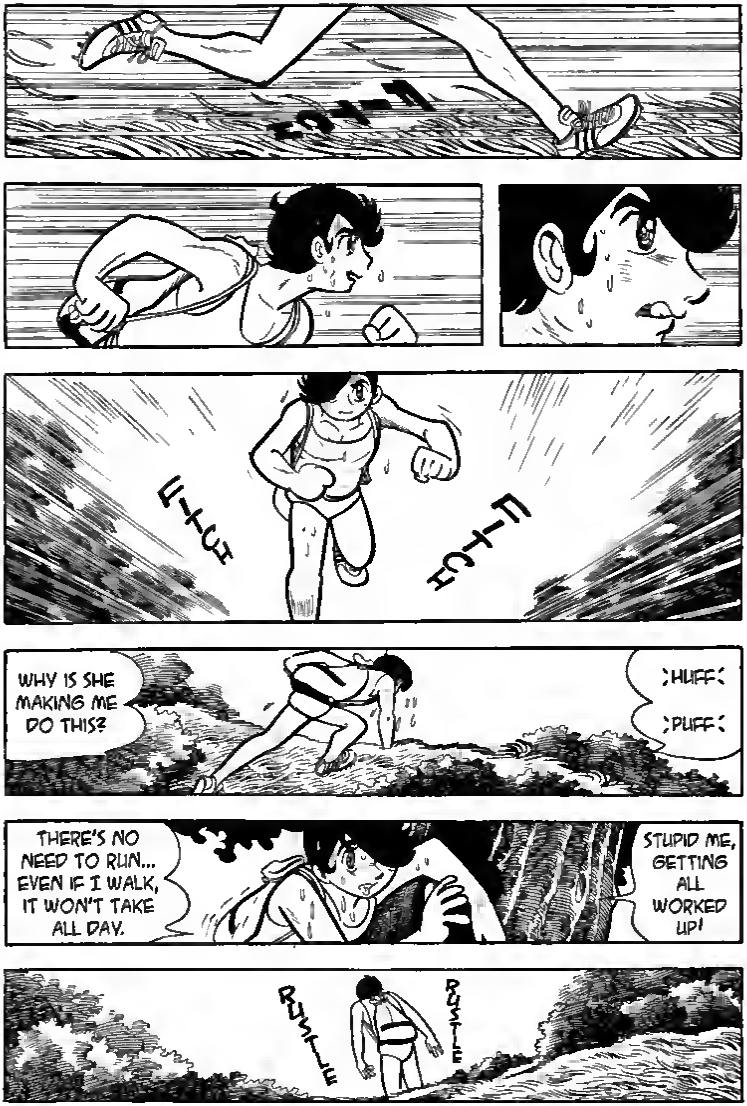
CALM DOWN!
THE CAGE IS FOR ME!
YOU ESCAPED FROM THE HOSPITAL, RIGHT? SO I'LL BE SLEEPING IN HERE, JUST TO BE SAFE.
A WORD OF WARNING: IF YOU GO OUT, YOU'LL GET ARRESTED!
GOOD NIGHT.
CHIRP-CHIRP-CHIRP
CHIRP-CHIRP-CHIRP
WHO ON EARTH IS SHE? IF SHE'S NOT FROM THE HOSPITAL, WHAT DOES SHE WANT WITH ME?
ALONE ON A MOUNTAIN WITH SOME WOMAN... AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHO SHE IS!
BETTER MAKE A BREAK FOR IT FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.


...
SO LONG, MISS BOSSY CUTIE!
UNN

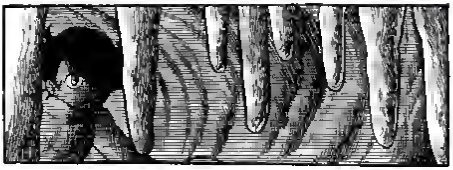
OOPS
UH-OH... COPS!
HEY, YOU!
WAIT A SEC. HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
HE WAS ON THE WANTED POSTER!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
STOP THAT!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY LITTLE BROTHER?
YOUR BROTHER?
THIS ISN'T SHOGO CHIKAISHI, THE ESCAPED MENTAL PATIENT?
HOW DARE YOU!
THE BOY'S NAME IS MAKOTO!!
IT'S JUST... LAST NIGHT A BOY ESCAPED FROM A MENTAL HOSPITAL AND COMMITTED MURDER!
THEY LOOK ALIKE...
WE'RE TERRIBLY SORRY, MISS!
PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY.
SEE? I TOLD YOU IT WASN'T SAFE TO GO OUT. YOU'RE BETTER OFF STAYING INSIDE.
WHY DID YOU COVER FOR ME?
WHO PUT YOU UP TO THIS?
NOBODY. I PUT MYSELF UP TO IT.

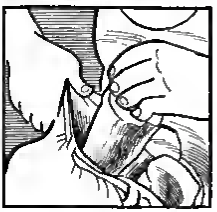
WELL THEN, TELL ME WHY!
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK...
I'M CARRYING OUT A STUDY ...
AND I NEED ICE.
THERE'S A LAVA CAVE 5 MILES SOUTH OF HERE.
I WANT YOU TO FETCH ME ICICLES FROM THE CAVE EVERY DAY AND BRING THEM BACK BEFORE THEY MELT.
WHAT THE HELL FOR?
I'LL TELL YOU IN TIME FOR NOW. JUST BRING ME THE ICE EVERY DAY.
I SAW HOW FAST YOU ARE. THAT'S WHAT MADE ME THINK TO ASK YOU.
5 MILES ?
SOUNDS EASY.

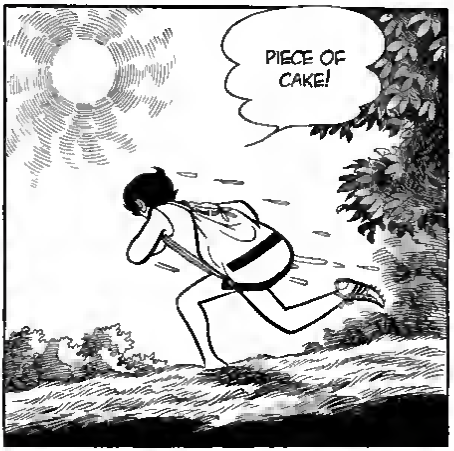

FALL
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
WHY IS SHE MAKING ME DO THIS?
:HUFF:
:PUFF:
THERE'S NO NEED TO RUN... EVEN IF I WALK, IT WON'T TAKE ALL DAY.
STUPID ME, GETTING ALL WORKED UP!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

THIS MUST BE IT!



THIS ONE LOOKS GOOD
SNAP

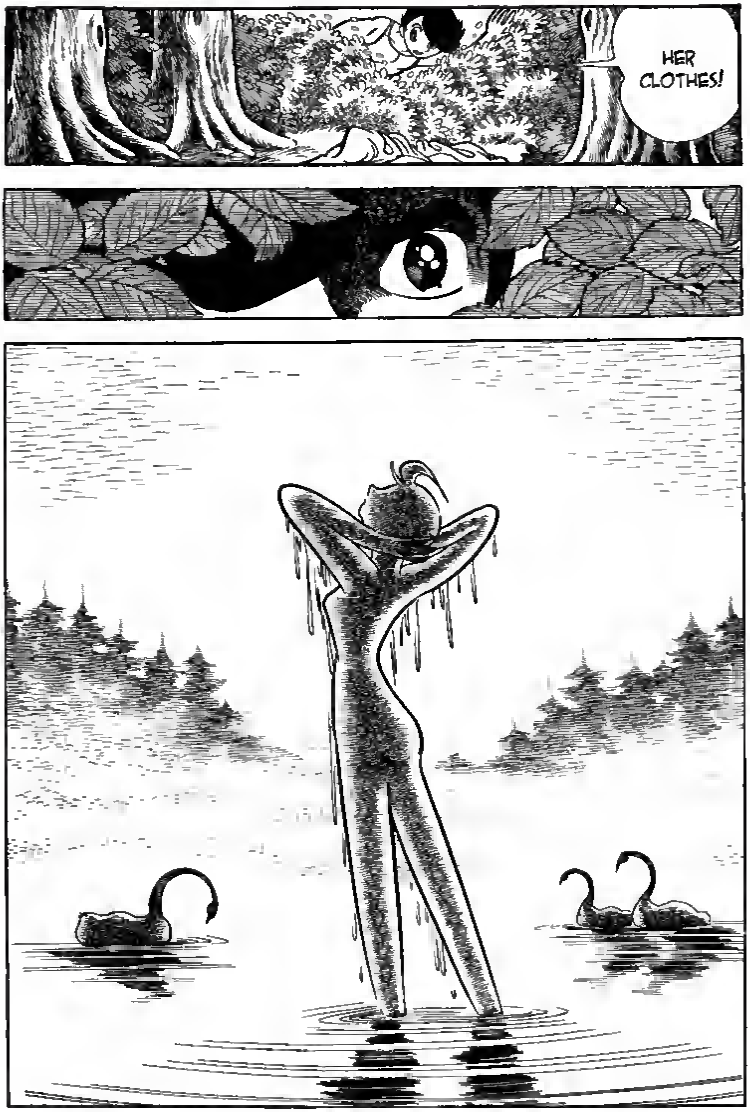



PIECE OF CAKE!

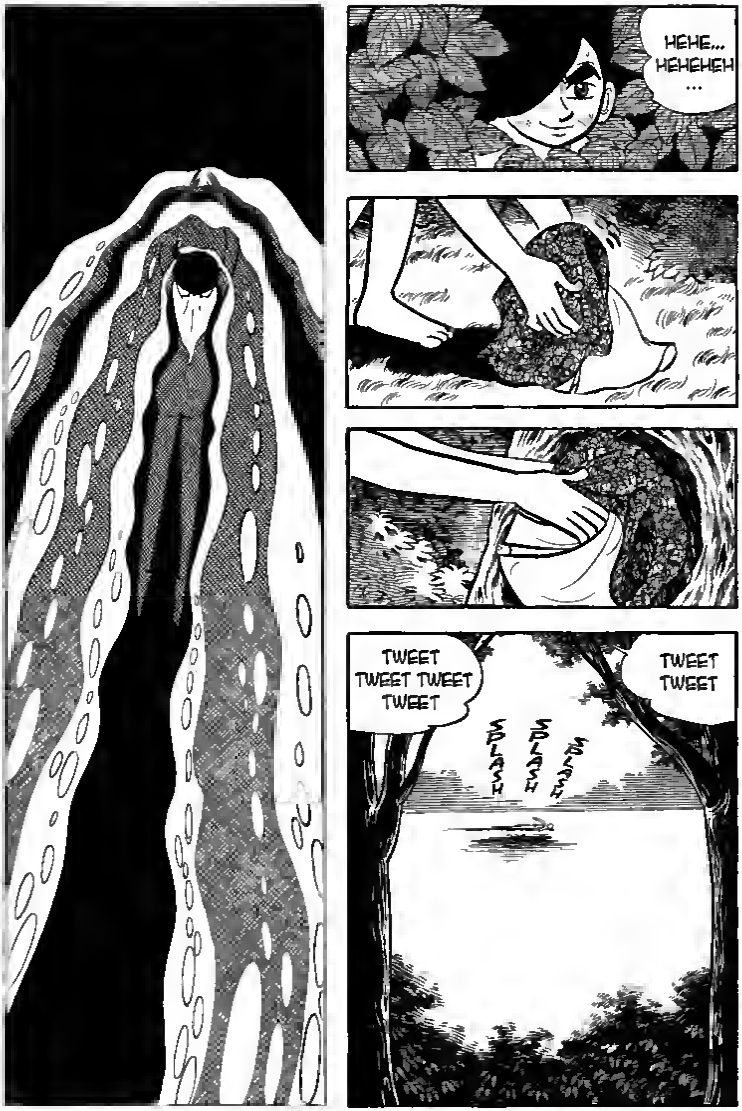
PANT
PANT
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS HEAT! IT WASN'T THIS HOT ON THE WAY HERE!

PLUS ...
I HAD NO IDEA THE ICE WOULD BE SO HEAVY!
AND IT SURE IS MELTING FAST!
THAT MAKES IT LIGHTER ...
BUT IT ALSO MAKES THIS WHOLE TRIP POINTLESS!
:PANT:
:PANT:
:PANT:
FINALLY... HALFWAY BACK...
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
IT'S MELTING... MELTING...
UHH...
:HUFF:
:PUFF:
MELTING ...

;PANT;
;PANT;
;PANT;
OH... OH NO!
IT'S ALL GONE !
HIROMI!
;PANT;
;PANT;
HIROMI!
;PANT;
?

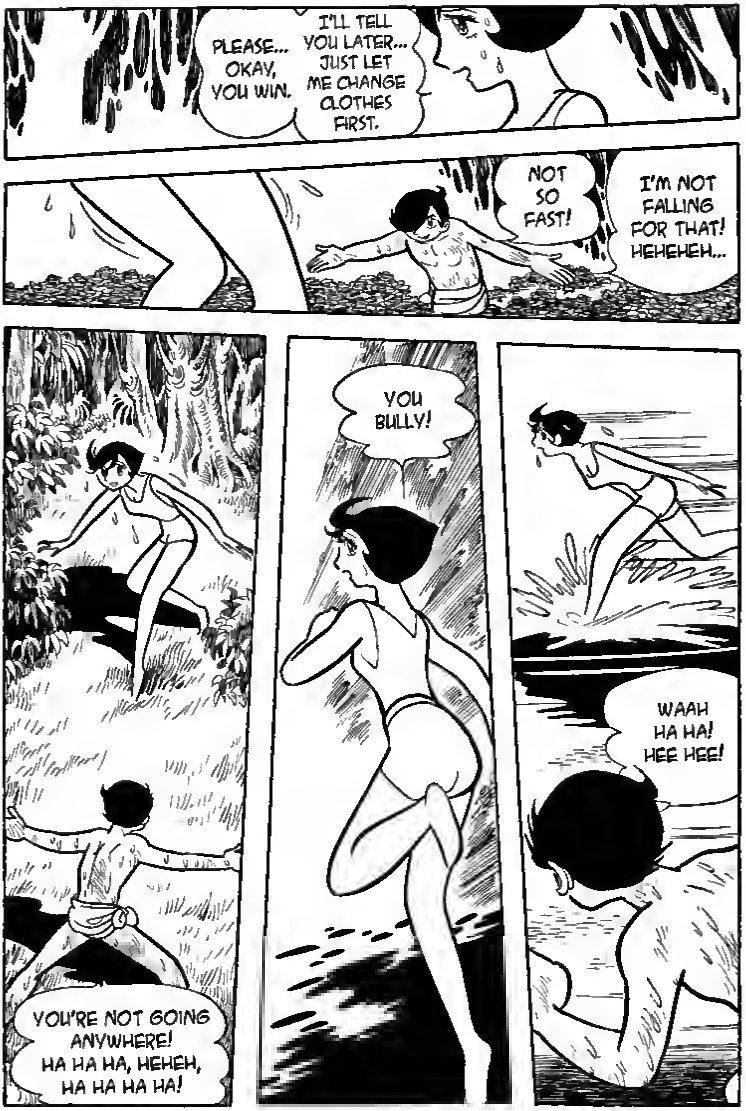

HER CLOTHES!

SPLASH!


HEHE... HEHEHEH ...
TWEET TWEET TWEET TWEET
TWEET TWEET
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH

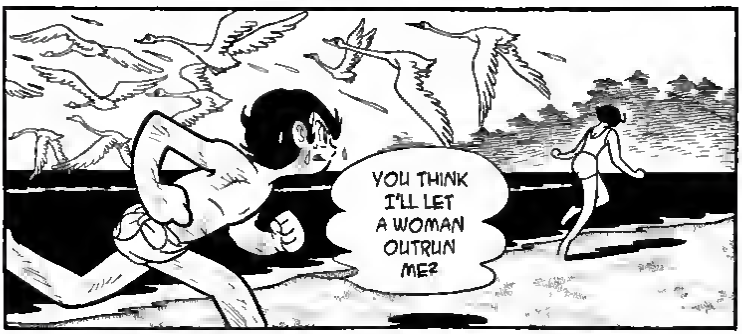
DRIP
DRIP
AH!
MY CLOTHES ARE GONE!
THESE ARE SHOGO'S!
HE DID THIS.
WHAT'S THIS? WHY ARE YOU WEARING MY SHIRT, HIROMI?
SHOGO!
YOU HID MY CLOTHES, DIDN'T YOU! GIVE THEM BACK!

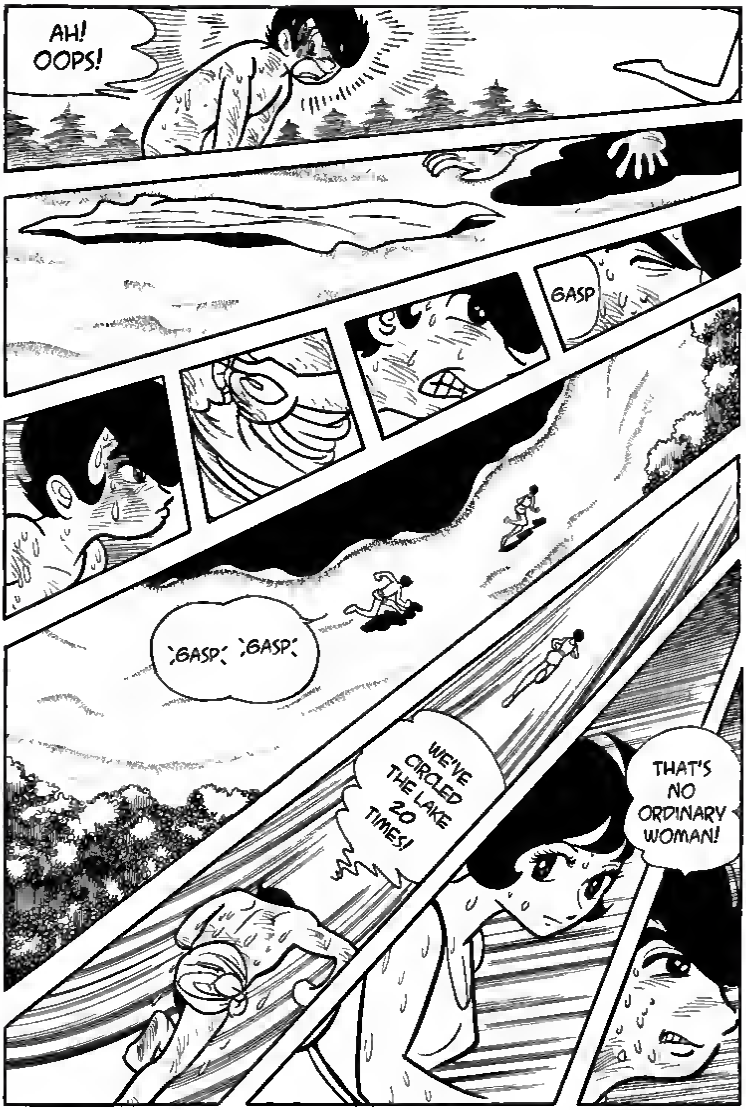
NAH, IT WASN'T ME. A MONKEY OR RACCOON DOG MUST HAVE MADE OFF WITH THEM!
NOW, GIVE ME MY CLOTHES BACK! C'MON, TAKE THEM OFF!
WAIT... I'LL GO BACK TO THE HOUSE AND CHANGE INTO SOMETHING ELSE...
NO!
GIVE THEM BACK NOW! TAKE THEM OFF RIGHT HERE!
DON'T BE UNREASONABLE ...
I'M UNREASONABLE, AM I? AFTER YOU MADE ME RUN 10 MILES TO FETCH ICE THAT WAS JUST GOING TO MELT ANYWAY...
WHILE YOU HAD A NICE, CAREFREE SWIM. WHO'S THE UNREASONABLE ONE, HUH? ANSWER ME!
YOU CERTAINLY LIKE TO ARGUE, DON'T YOU?
WHY DID YOU MAKE ME DO IT? I WANT AN EXPLANATION!
AND MAKE IT GOOD, OR YOU CAN TAKE THOSE CLOTHES OFF RIGHT NOW!


PLEASE... OKAY, YOU WIN.
I'LL TELL YOU LATER... JUST LET ME CHANGE CLOTHES FIRST.
NOT SO FAST!
I'M NOT FALLING FOR THAT! HEHEHEH...
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE! HA HA HA, HEHEH, HA HA HA HA!
YOU BULLY!
WAAH HA HA! HEE HEE!

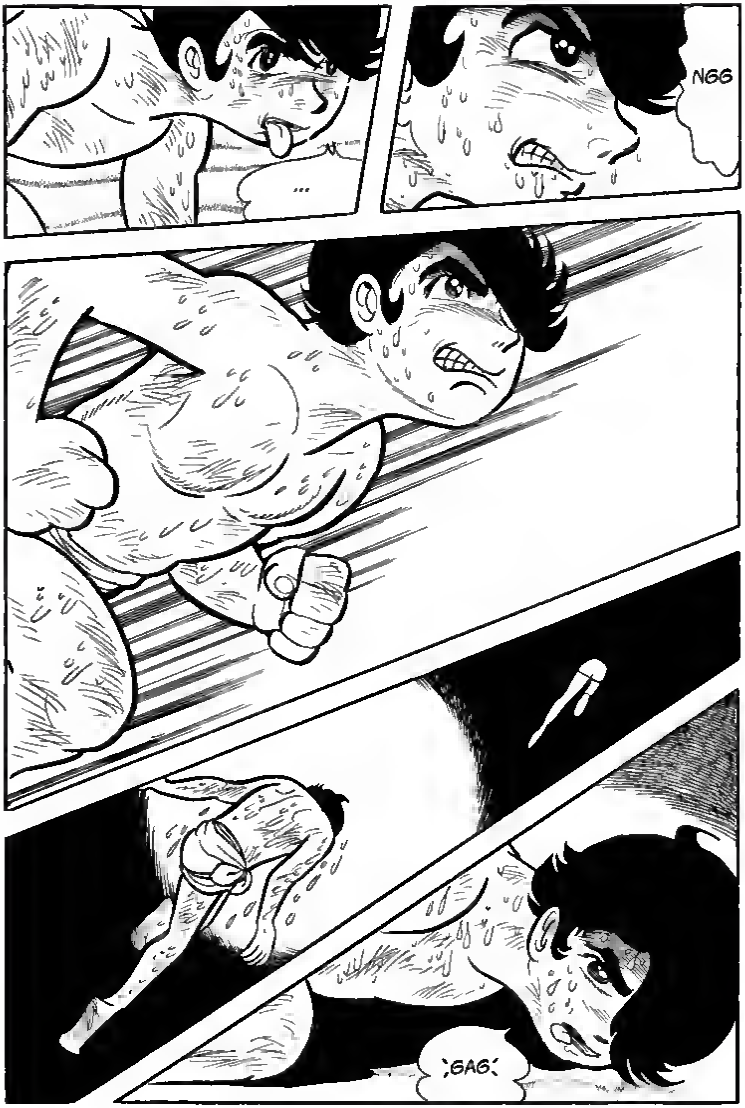
STOP!
YOU STOLE MY CLOTHES!
NO FAIR, RUNNING AWAY!
NO WAY YOU'RE GETTING BACK TO THE HOUSE!
GRIN
@#$!

YOU KNOW I'VE JUST RUN 10 MILES, SO NOW YOU'RE GONNA KEEP RUNNING IN CIRCLES, HUH?
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP


YOU THINK I'LL LET A WOMAN OUTRUN ME?

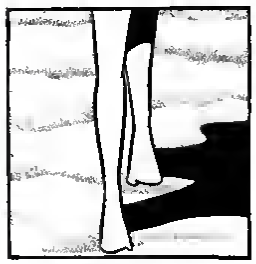

AH! OOPS!
GASP
:GASP: :GASP:
WE'VE CIRCLED THE LAKE 20 TIMES!
THAT'S NO ORDINARY WOMAN!

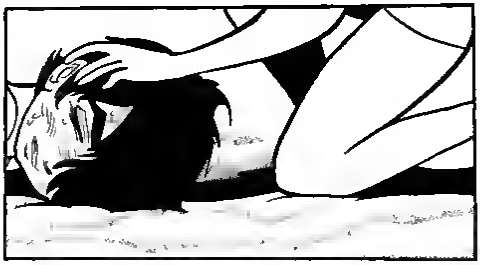
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PANT
PANT
UGH...
GAG

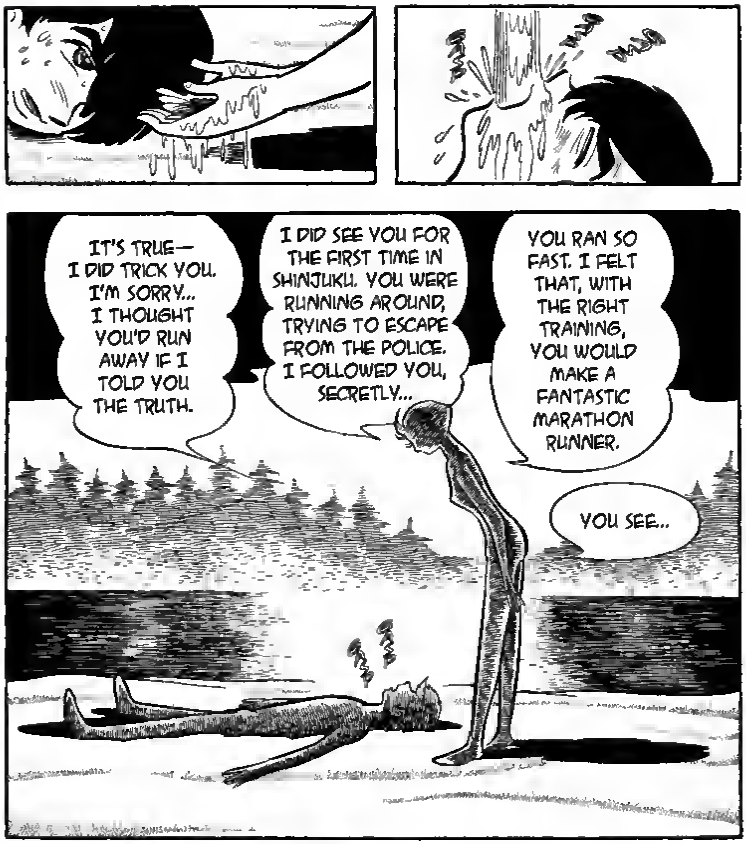

...
NGG
;GAG;

THAT ... WOMAN ...
THE SUN...
A BLUE SUN...

APOLLO...
... ...

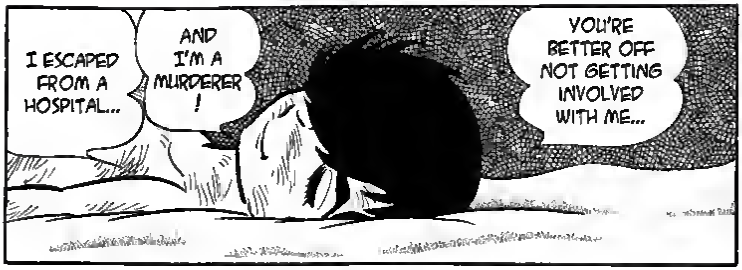


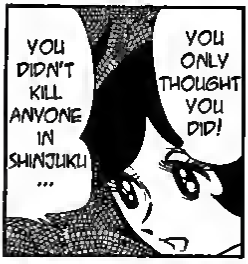



IT'S TRUE— I DID TRICK YOU. I'M SORRY... I THOUGHT YOU'D RUN AWAY IF I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH.
I DID SEE YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SHINJUKU. YOU WERE RUNNING AROUND, TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM THE POLICE. I FOLLOWED YOU, SECRETLY...
YOU RAN SO FAST. I FELT THAT, WITH THE RIGHT TRAINING, YOU WOULD MAKE A FANTASTIC MARATHON RUNNER.
YOU SEE...
MY FATHER WAS COACHED BY MURAKOSO OF THE 1936 BERLIN OLYMPICS...
I'M A WOMAN, BUT I HAD POTENTIAL AS A LONG-DISTANCE RUNNER.

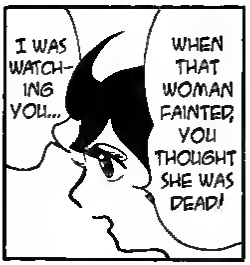
BUT MARATHONS AREN'T REALLY FOR WOMEN. IT'S NOT GOOD FOR WOMEN'S BODIES.
I WANTED TO FIND A MAN WHO WOULD REALIZE MY DREAM IN MY PLACE.
A MARATHON RUNNER NEEDS THE STAMINA OF A BEAST, THE RESILIENCE OF A PLANT, AND LOADS OF SPIRIT.
YOU HAVE ALL OF THOSE QUALITIES.
YOU WANT ME TO BE A MARATHON RUNNER...
AND YOU WANT TO BE MY COACH?!
THAT'S RIGHT... I ASKED YOU TO BRING ME ICE BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO RUN THAT DISTANCE EVERY DAY AS TRAINING.
BUT NOW I'M THE LOSER. I SHOULDN'T HAVE TRICKED YOU.
HERE'S YOUR SHIRT BACK.
CLOSE YOUR EYES.
AFTER ALL THAT... YOU'RE JUST TAKING IT OFF?
:CHUCKLE: YOU'RE NO THREAT NOW...

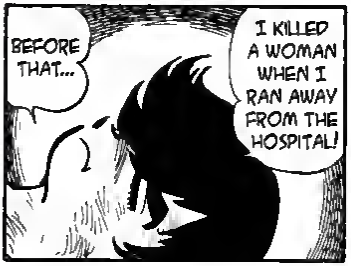
YOU'RE TOO EXHAUSTED TO MOVE.
YOU'RE FREE NOW. EVEN IF YOU STAY HERE WITH ME, IT'S UP TO YOU TO TRY TO BECOME A MARATHON RUNNER OR NOT.
SO THERE... THAT'S MY EXCUSE

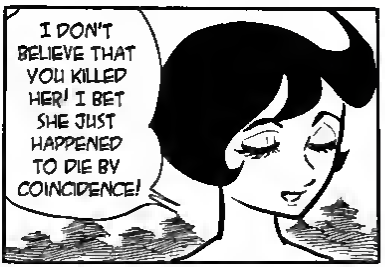

I ESCAPED FROM A HOSPITAL...
AND I'M A MURDERER !
YOU'RE BETTER OFF NOT GETTING INVOLVED WITH ME...


YOU DIDN'T KILL ANYONE IN SHINJUKU ...
YOU ONLY THOUGHT YOU DID!

NOT TRUE!


I WAS WATCH-ING YOU...
WHEN THAT WOMAN FAINTED, YOU THOUGHT SHE WAS DEAD!

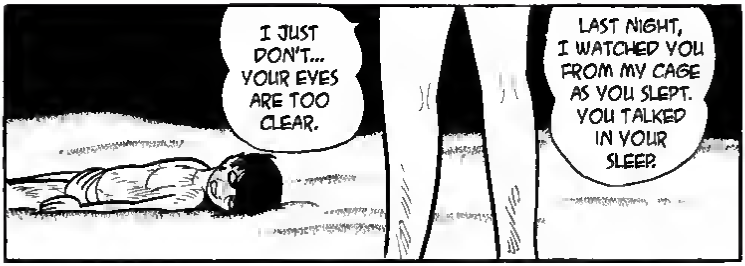

BEFORE THAT...
I KILLED A WOMAN WHEN I RAN AWAY FROM THE HOSPITAL!

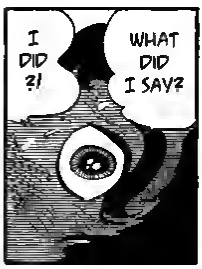

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT YOU KILLED HER! I BET SHE JUST HAPPENED TO DIE BY COINCIDENCE!

NO!

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU'RE CAPABLE OF MURDER.

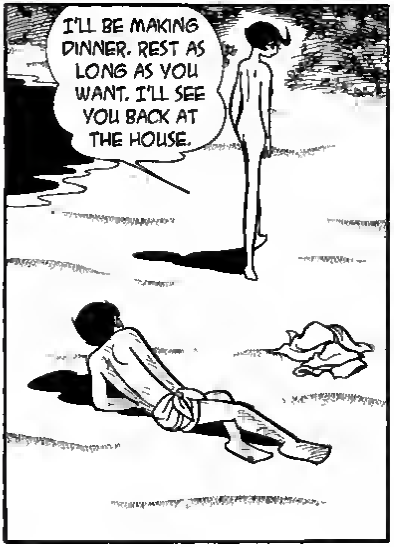
WHY NOT ?

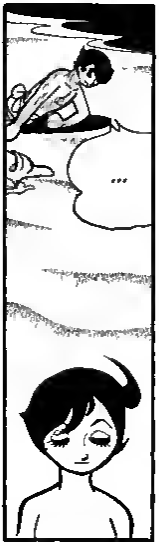

I JUST DON'T... YOUR EYES ARE TOO CLEAR.
LAST NIGHT, I WATCHED YOU FROM MY CAGE AS YOU SLEPT. YOU TALKED IN YOUR SLEEP.


I DID ?!
WHAT DID I SAY?

:CHUCKLE:
YOU SAID, "MOTHER."

YIKES!
I DON'T REMEMBER SAYING THAT!


I'LL BE MAKING DINNER. REST AS LONG AS YOU WANT. I'LL SEE YOU BACK AT THE HOUSE.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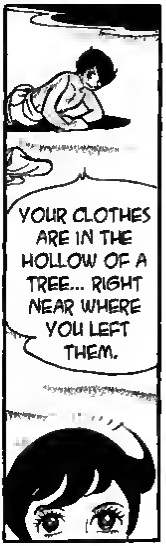
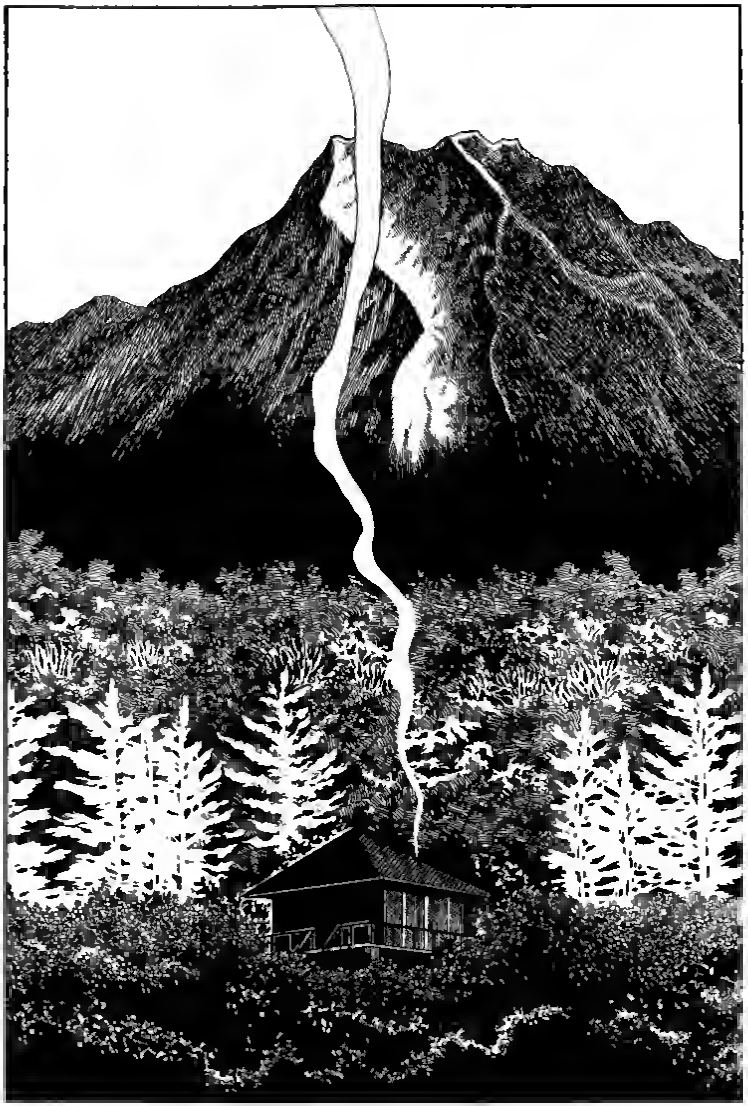
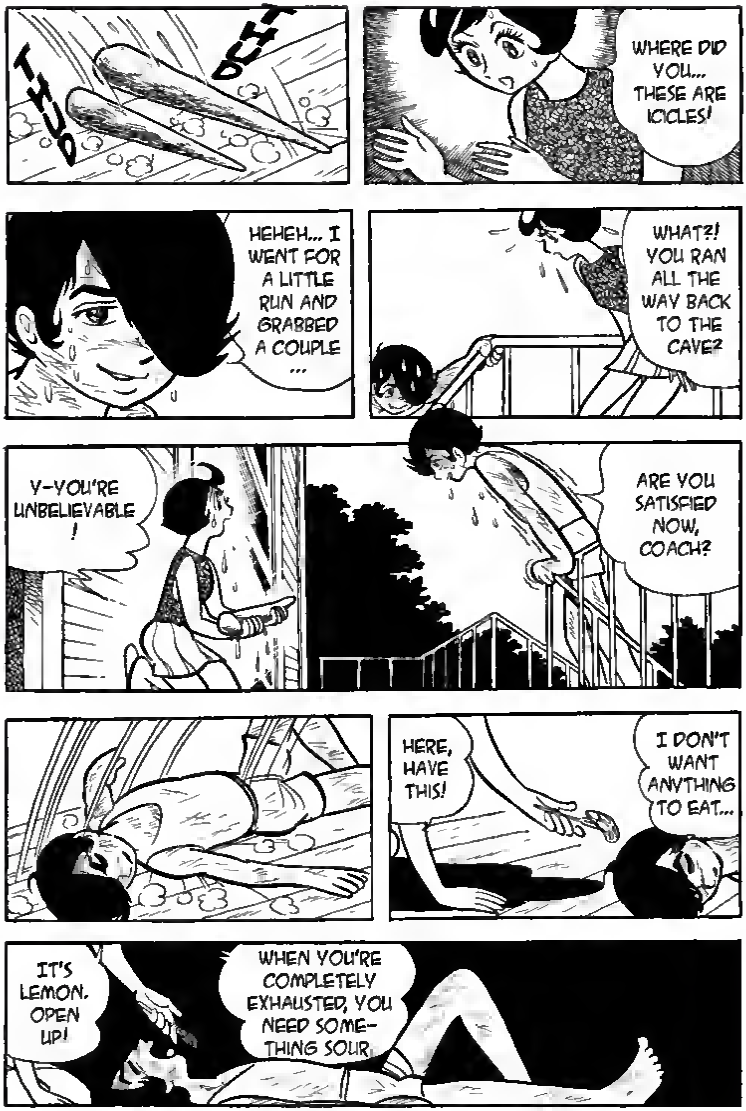

YOUR CLOTHES ARE IN THE HOLLOW OF A TREE... RIGHT NEAR WHERE YOU LEFT THEM.



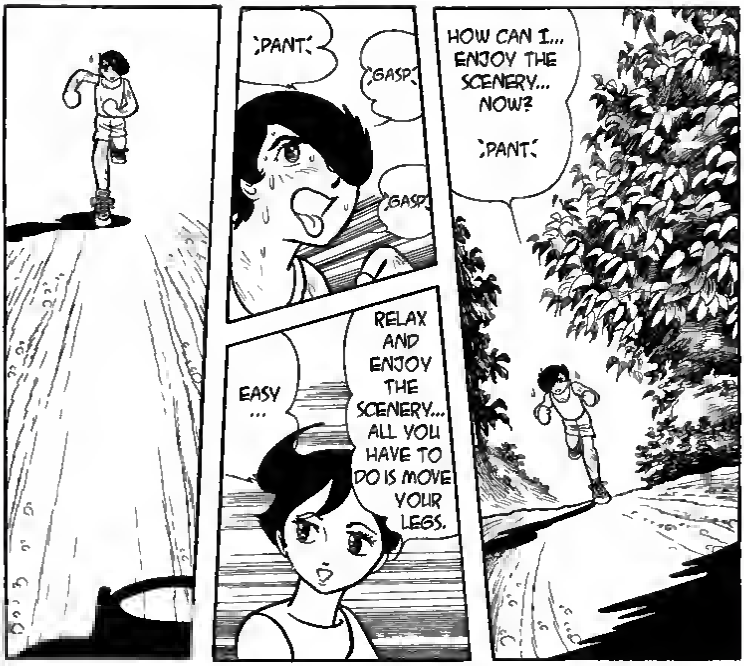
IT'S BEEN 6 HOURS...
I GUESS HE GOT FED UP AND TOOK OFF
HE'LL PROBABLY NEVER COME BACK...
SHOGO !!
HEHEH ...


THUD
OCH
WHERE DID YOU... THESE ARE ICICLES!
HEHEH... I WENT FOR A LITTLE RUN AND GRABBED A COUPLE ...
WHAT?! YOU RAN ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE CAVE?
Y-YOU'RE UNBELIEVABLE!
ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW, COACH?
HERE, HAVE THIS!
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO EAT...
IT'S LEMON. OPEN UP!
WHEN YOU'RE COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED, YOU NEED SOMETHING SOUR.

EGEGUK EGEGUK EGEGUK
WIPE OFF YOUR SWEAT.
DOES IT BOTHER YOU THAT I STINK?
IT'S NOT THAT! WHEN YOU'RE COVERED IN SWEAT AND DIRT, YOUR SKIN CAN'T BREATHE PROPERLY!
UGH!
STOP FUSSING OVER ME!
I...
I HATE HAVING PEOPLE TAKE CARE OF ME!
JUST MAKE AN ATHLETE OUT OF ME.
;PHEW;

ZZZZZZZZZZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
...
ZZZZZZZZZZZZ
ZZZZZZ
ZZZZZZ

HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH

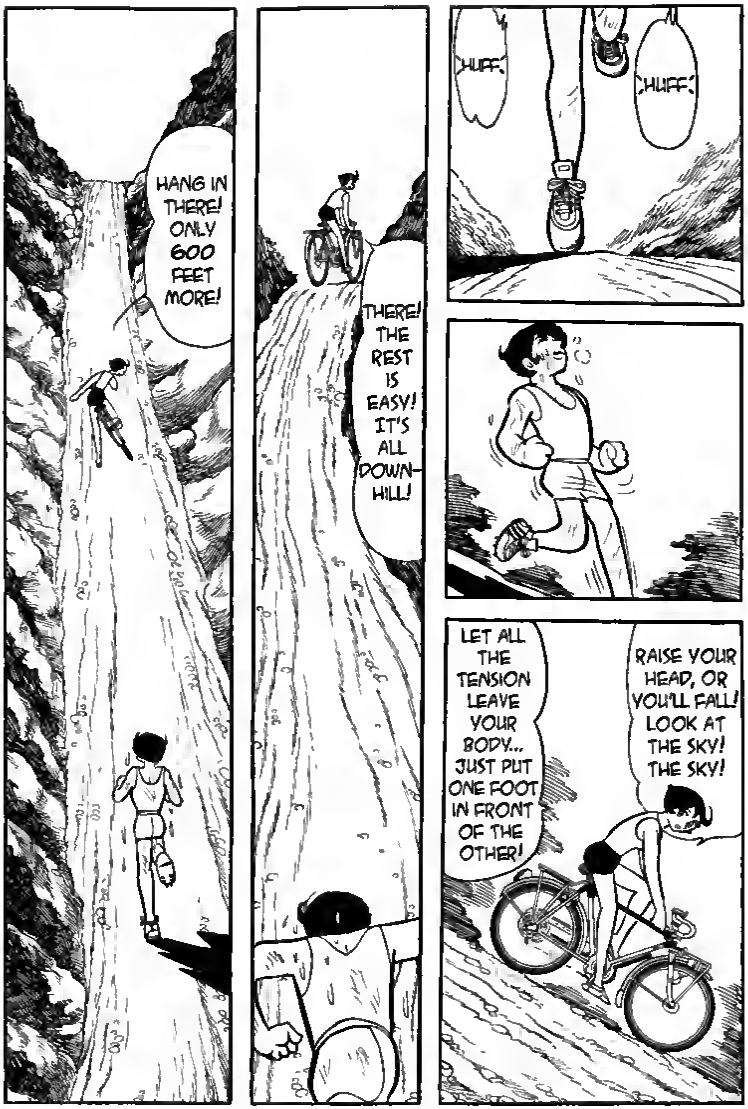

;PANT;
;GASP;
;GASP;
HOW CAN I... ENJOY THE SCENERY... NOW?
;PANT;
EASY ...
RELAX AND ENJOY THE SCENERY... ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MOVE YOUR LEGS.

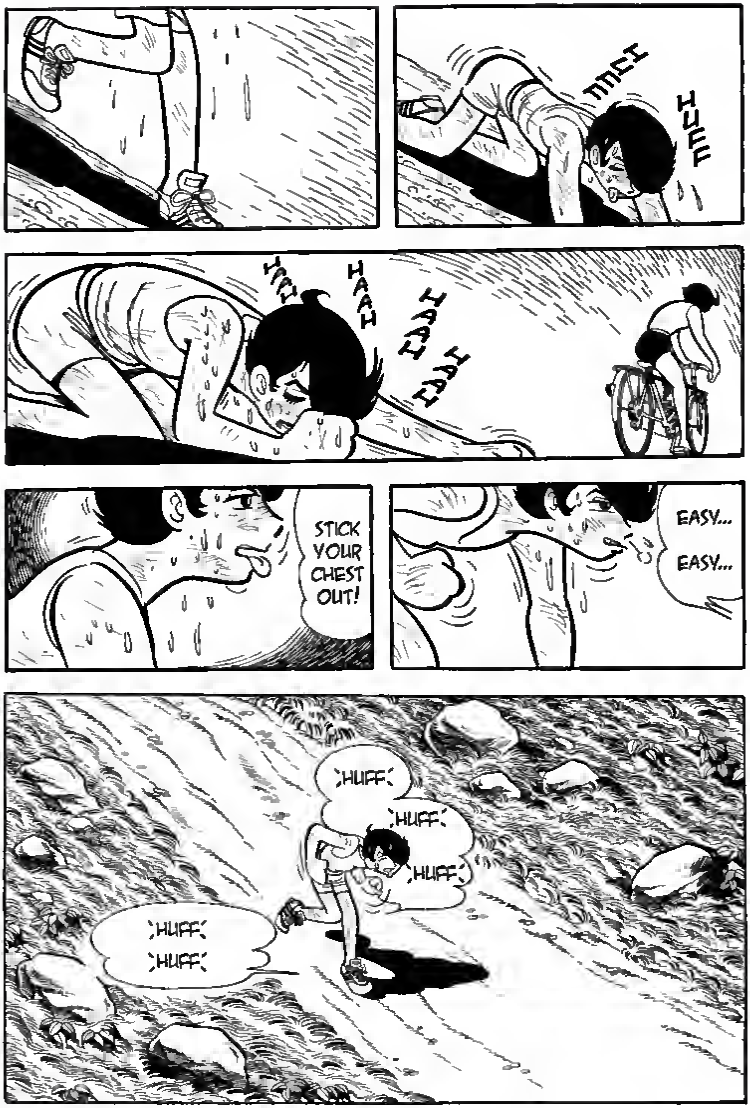
THERE'S A HILL UP AHEAD. IF YOU DON'T TAKE IT EASY NOW, YOU WON'T MAKE IT.

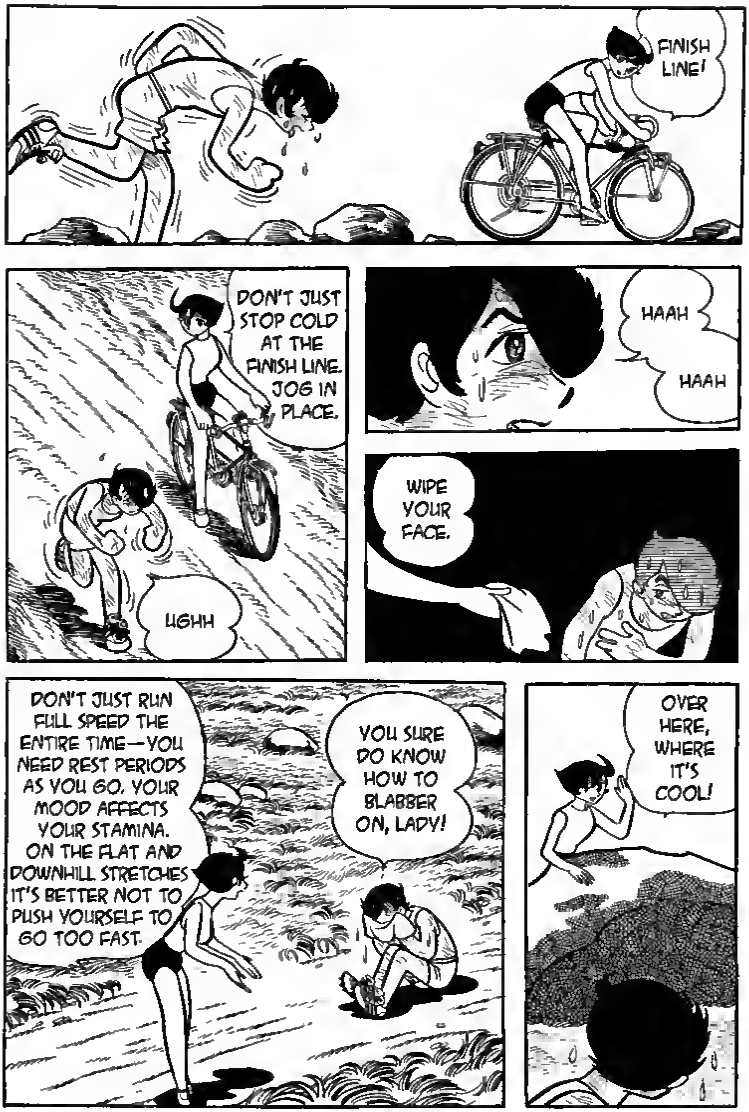
THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY!
YOU'RE ON A BIKE! IF I'M DOING IT WRONG, GET OFF AND SHOW ME!

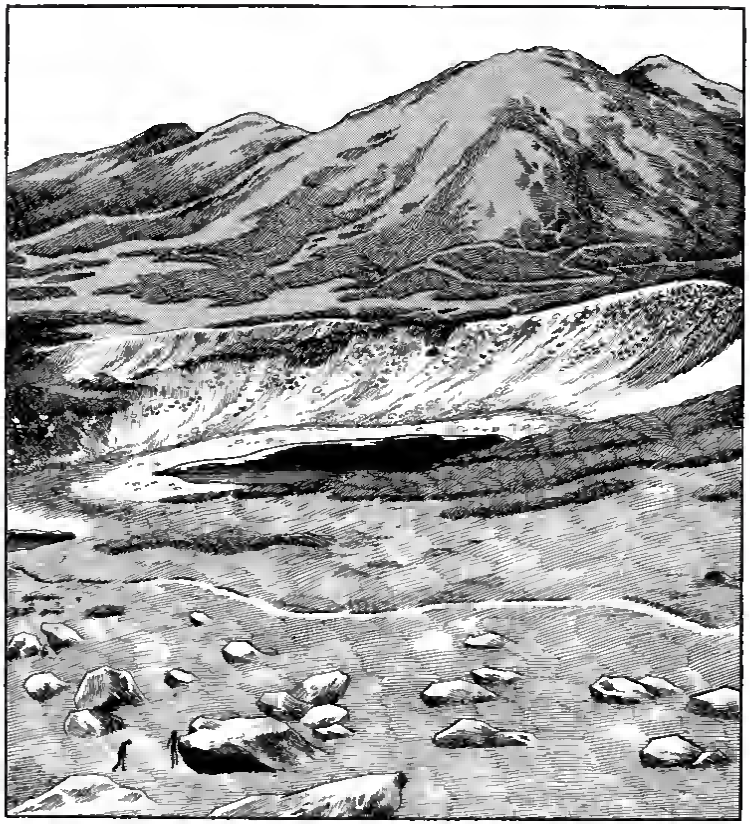
HERE'S THE HILL.
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH

HOLD YOUR HEAD UP! LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD! IF YOU LOOK AT YOUR FEET, YOU'LL SCREW UP YOUR FORM AND LOSE YOUR FOOTING!


HANG IN THERE! ONLY 600 FEET MORE!
THERE! THE REST IS EASY! IT'S ALL DOWN-HILL!
HUFF.
HUFF.
LET ALL THE TENSION LEAVE YOUR BODY... JUST PUT ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER!
RAISE YOUR HEAD, OR YOU'LL FALL! LOOK AT THE SKY! THE SKY!


HUFF
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
STICK YOUR CHEST OUT!
EASY...
EASY...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


FINISH LINE!
DON'T JUST STOP COLD AT THE FINISH LINE. JOG IN PLACE.
UGHH
HAAH
HAAH
WIPE YOUR FACE.
DON'T JUST RUN FULL SPEED THE ENTIRE TIME—YOU NEED REST PERIODS AS YOU GO. YOUR MOOD AFFECTS YOUR STAMINA. ON THE FLAT AND DOWNHILL STRETCHES IT'S BETTER NOT TO PUSH YOURSELF TO GO TOO FAST.
YOU SURE DO KNOW HOW TO BLABBER ON, LADY!
OVER HERE, WHERE IT'S COOL!



YOU DID GREAT.

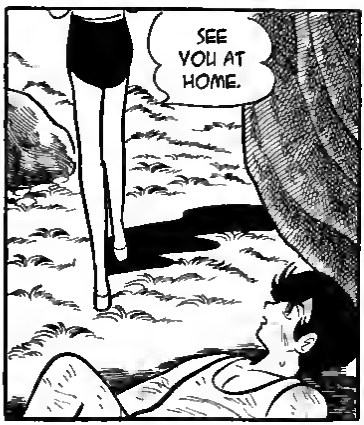
THIS IS JUST DUMB, THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT.
I'M NOT CUT OUT TO BE A MARATHON RUNNER! I QUIT!

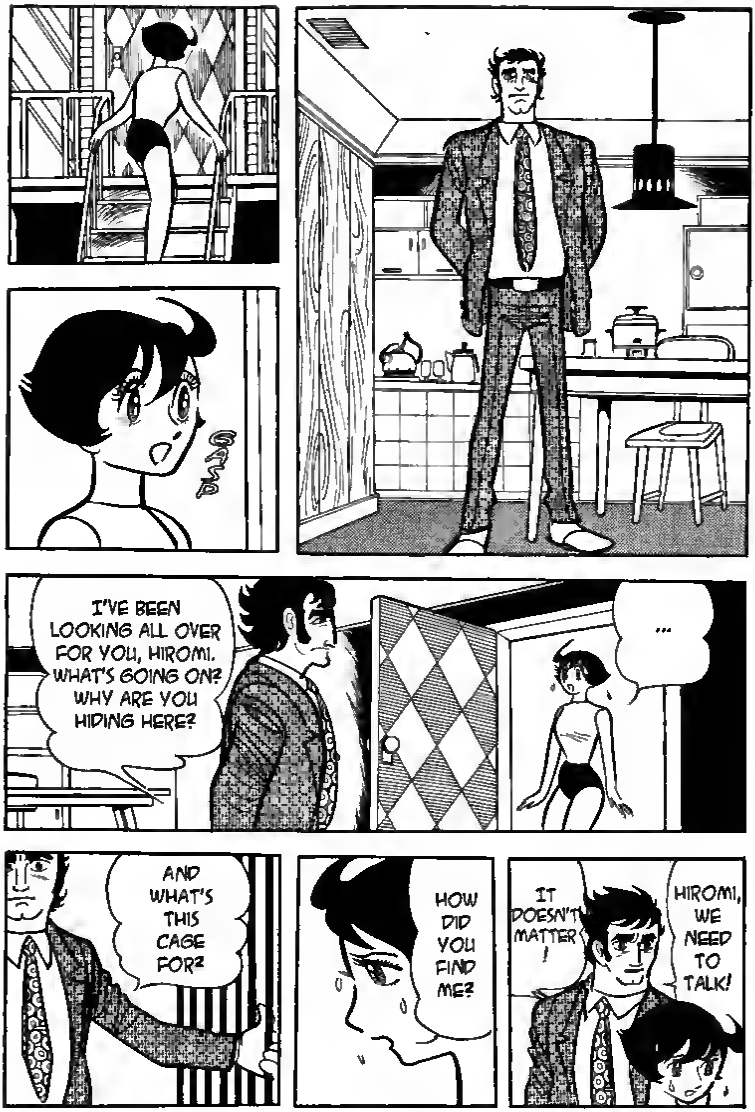
NOT CUT OUT FOR IT? SHOGO, YOU RAN 8 MILES!
REALLY? 8 MILES?
THAT'S RIGHT... IN JUST UNDER 33 MINUTES.
THAT'S INCREDIBLE FOR A RUNNER YOUR AGE!
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, SHOGO!
HA HA HA!
WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING?
I WAS THINKING OF A MANGA...
THERE WAS A SPORTS MANGA IN A WEEKLY MAGAZINE. THE COACH PUTS THE HERO THROUGH HIS PACES ...
HE TELLS HIM TO KEEP FIGHTING, AND DRIVES HIM HARD UNTIL HE INVENTS A NEW TECHNIQUE.
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU LOOK LIKE THE HERO'S GIRLFRIEND!
WHY, THANKS ...
I HAD NO IDEA THIS WAS GONNA BE LIKE SOME CRAZY MANGA!
SHUSH! THIS IS NO MANGA.

I'LL BET SHE LOOKS LIKE THIS!
WELL... I SUPPOSE I DO DRIVE YOU PRETTY HARD... TRAINING IS NEVER EASY.
BUT IT'S BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN YOU. I NEED YOU TO BELIEVE IN ME TOO!
YOU'RE MY COACH, RIGHT HIROMI? WILL YOU TEACH ME SOMETHING?
SURE.
TEACH YOU WHAT?
HOW TO KISS.
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH RUNNING!
IF WE TRUST EACH OTHER, WHAT'S WRONG WITH A LITTLE KISS, COACH?
SHOGO, THAT'S NAUGHTY!
I DON'T THINK IT'S NAUGHTY.
SINCE I WAS JUST THIS BIG, THAT'S ALL I EVER SAW.
MY MOTHER KISSED ALL KINDS OF MEN!

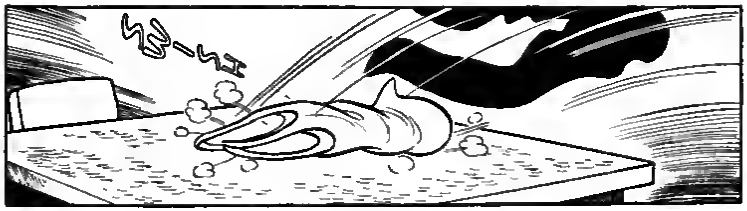
THAT'S WHY I'M SICK NOW.
IT CAN'T BE ...
DR. ENOKI AT THE HOSPITAL SAID KISSING WOULD CURE ME!
DON'T MAKE THINGS UP!
I SEE. I KNEW IT ALL ALONG!
THIS PROVES YOU DON'T TRUST ME.
...
DO YOU REALLY WANT ME TO KISS YOU?
...
THAT WAS A "DRY KISS."
YOUR LIPS TOUCH.
IT'S HOW A PARENT KISSES A CHILD OR A BABY.
GO ON...

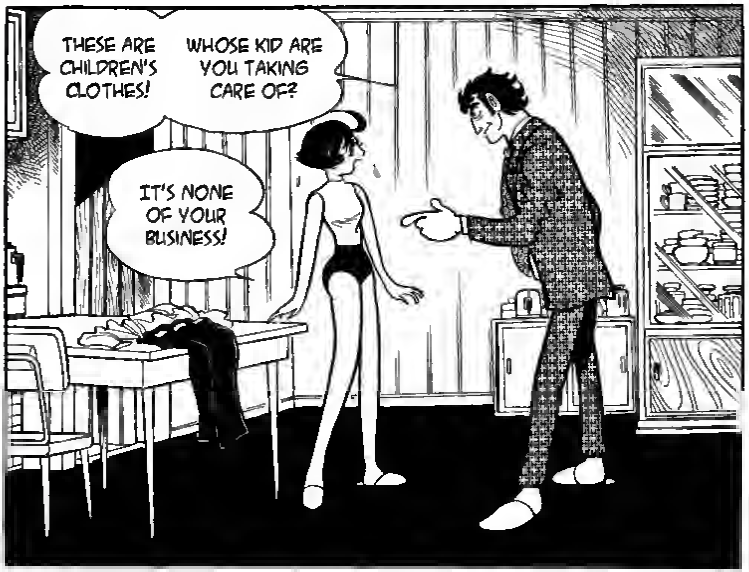
IN A "WET KISS," YOUR TONGUES TOUCH, TOO.
THAT'S HOW PEOPLE KISS WHEN THEY'RE IN LOVE.
LET'S TRY IT.
NO !
LET'S TRY IT.
I'M GOING HOME.
HEY !!
SHAME ON YOU! YOU TALK BIG, BUT YOU DON'T FOLLOW THROUGH!
NOW I KNOW HOW YOU REALLY FEEL!


SEE YOU AT HOME.

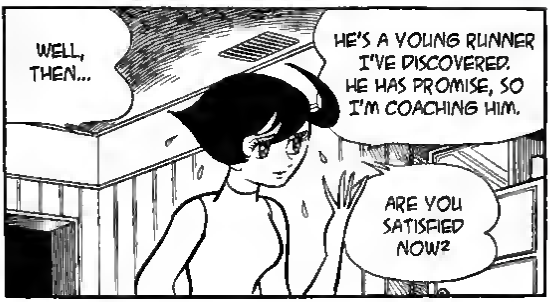

GASP
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU, HIROMI. WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY ARE YOU HIDING HERE?
...
AND WHAT'S THIS CAGE FOR?
HOW DID YOU FIND ME?
IT DOESN'T MATTER!
HIROMI, WE NEED TO TALK!

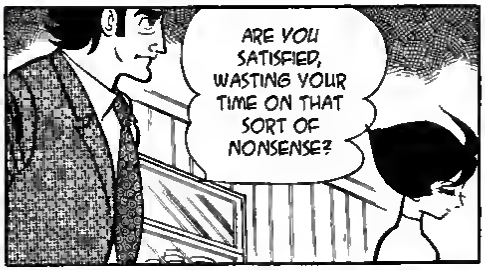
I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO SAY TO YOU.
NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU HAVEN'T PROPERLY HEARD ME OUT.
I TOLD YOU... I DON'T WANT A LOVELESS MARRIAGE
FIVE YEARS AGO, WE WERE IN LOVE! WE PROMISED TO GET MARRIED. WHAT CHANGED ?
WELL, WELL! WHOSE SHIRT IS THIS? I'D LIKE TO MEET HIM...




THESE ARE CHILDREN'S CLOTHES!
WHOSE KID ARE YOU TAKING CARE OF?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

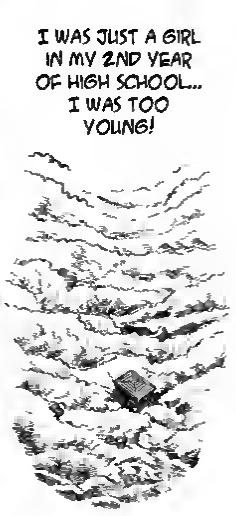
I WANT TO KNOW!


WELL, THEN...
HE'S A YOUNG RUNNER I'VE DISCOVERED. HE HAS PROMISE, SO I'M COACHING HIM.
ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW?

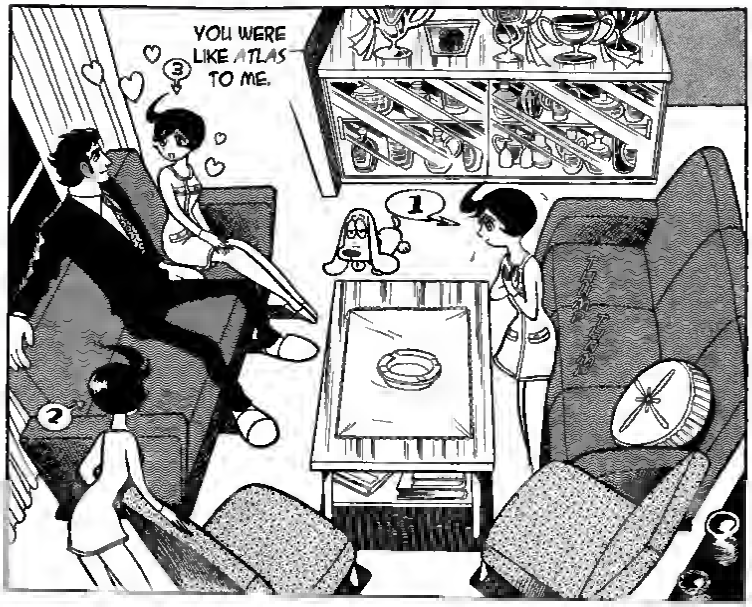

ARE YOU SATISFIED, WASTING YOUR TIME ON THAT SORT OF NONSENSE?

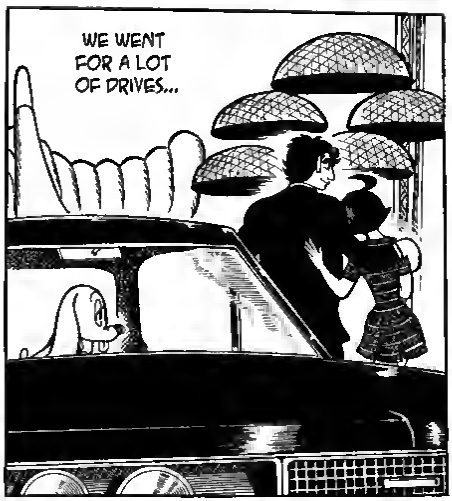
YES, I AM.

FIVE YEARS AGO, WHEN WE FIRST MET... WHEN MY FATHER INTRODUCED US...

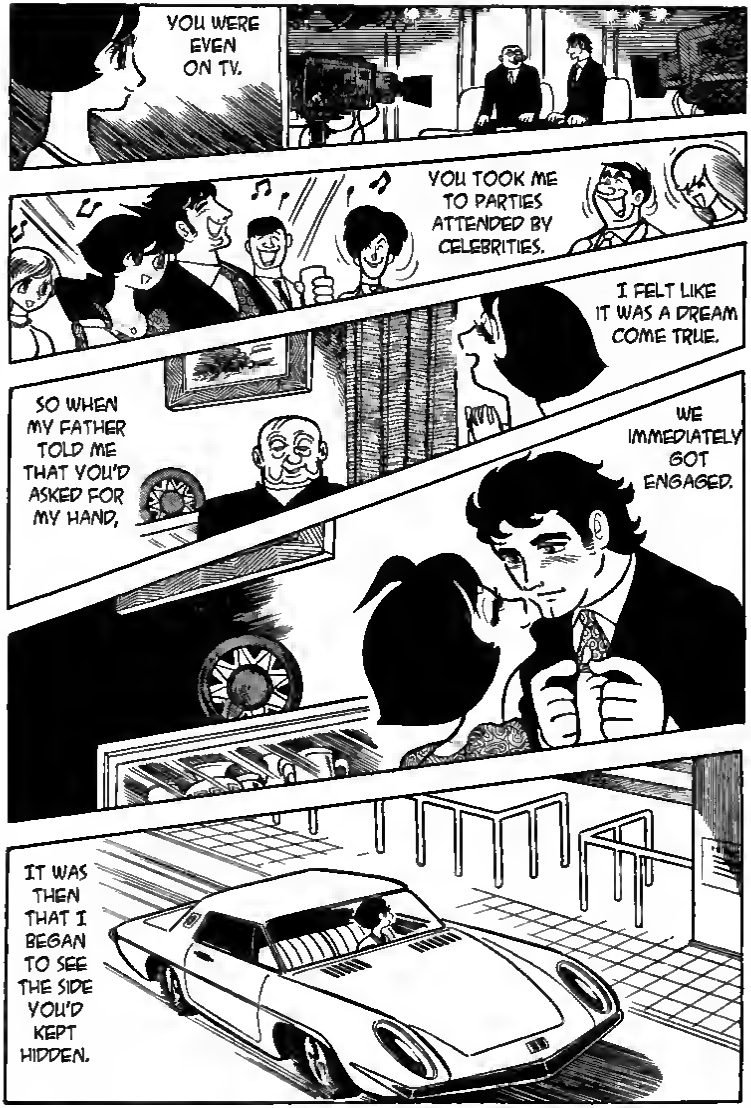

I WAS JUST A GIRL IN MY 2ND YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL... I WAS TOO YOUNG!

AND YOU WERE ALREADY A FAMOUS ATHLETE WHO HAD BEEN IN THE BOSTON MARATHON TWICE.

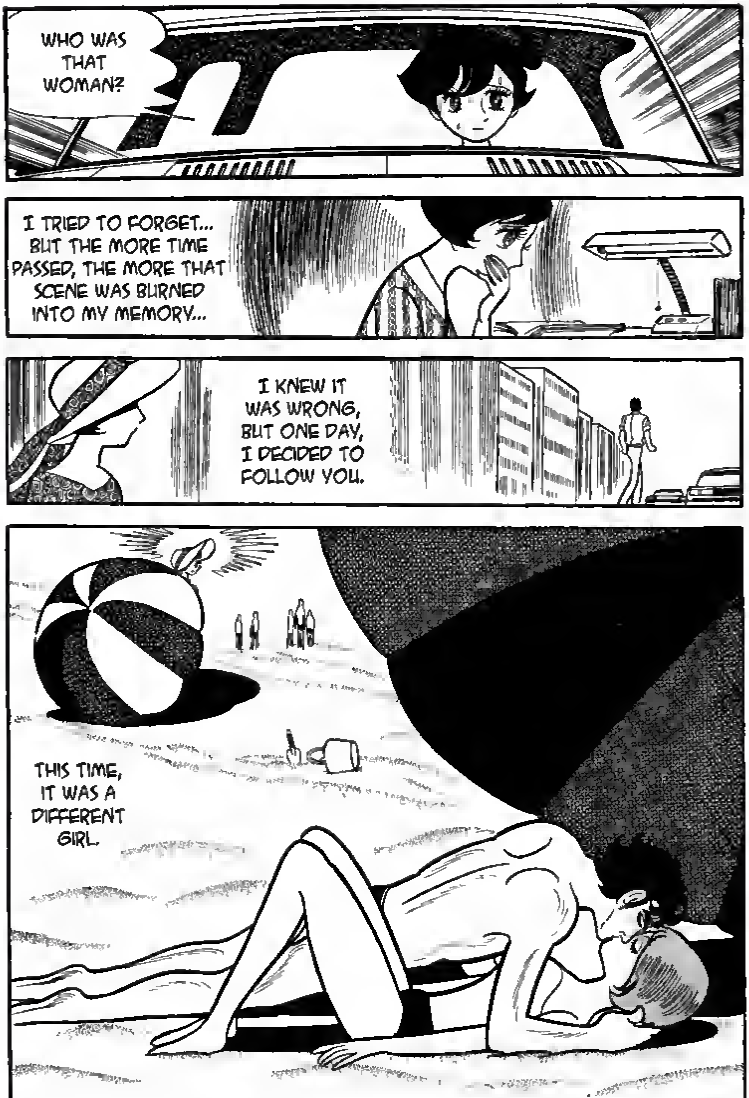

YOU WERE LIKE ATLAS TO ME.
3
1
2


WE WENT FOR A LOT OF DRIVES...

AND YOU WERE ALWAYS MOBBED BY YOUR FANS.


YOU WERE EVEN ON TV.
YOU TOOK ME TO PARTIES ATTENDED BY CELEBRITIES.
I FELT LIKE IT WAS A DREAM COME TRUE.
SO WHEN MY FATHER TOLD ME THAT YOU'D ASKED FOR MY HAND,
WE IMMEDIATELY GOT ENGAGED.
IT WAS THEN THAT I BEGAN TO SEE THE SIDE YOU'D KEPT HIDDEN.

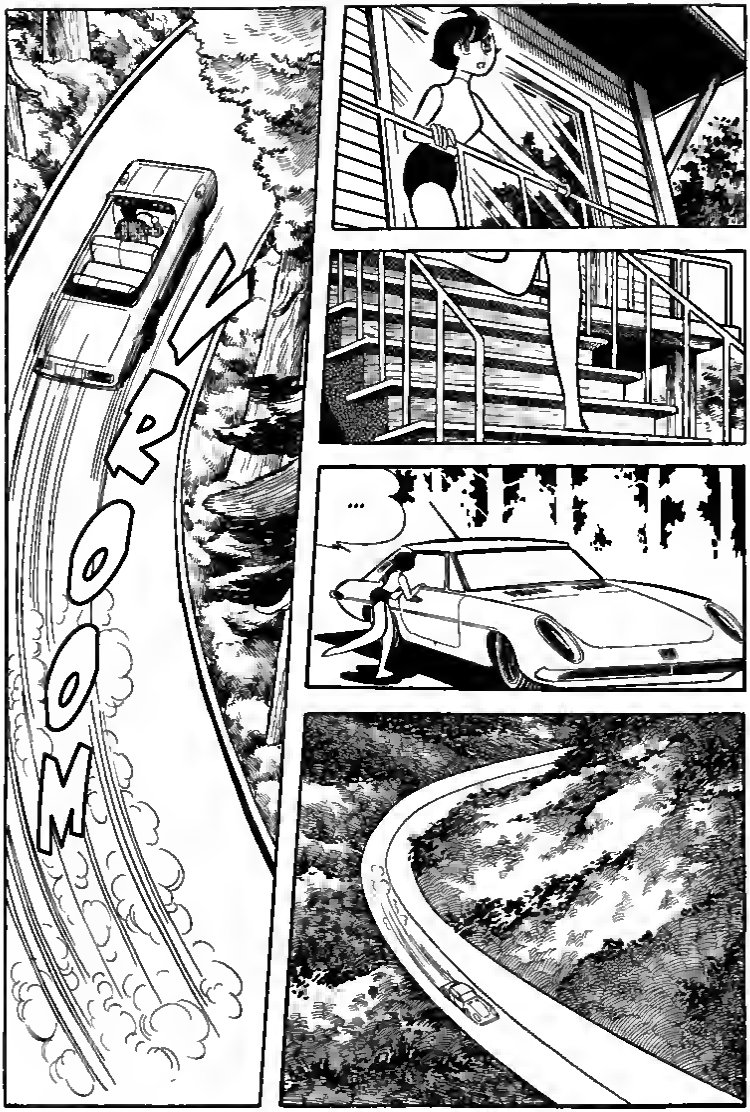
I SAW SOMETHING THERE THAT I SHOULDN'T HAVE.
I WENT ONE DAY TO THE TRAINING ARENA TO BRING YOU A MESSAGE FROM MY FATHER.


WHO WAS THAT WOMAN?
I TRIED TO FORGET... BUT THE MORE TIME PASSED, THE MORE THAT SCENE WAS BURNED INTO MY MEMORY...
I KNEW IT WAS WRONG, BUT ONE DAY, I DECIDED TO FOLLOW YOU.
THIS TIME, IT WAS A DIFFERENT GIRL.

AFTER THAT, WHENEVER I SAW YOU, IT WAS LIKE I COULDN'T HEAR ANYTHING YOU SAID.

I DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO TELL MY FATHER THE TRUTH.
I WANTED TO RUN AWAY FROM EVERYONE.
VROOM
I WANTED TO LIVE IN A WORLD OF MY OWN,
WHERE NOBODY WOULD EVER FIND ME.
THIS IS THAT WORLD, MY WORLD.

THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT ANYONE BOTHERING ME HERE!
IT SEEMS THERE HAVE BEEN SOME MISUNDER-STANDINGS, BUT IT'S CLEAR TO ME NOW THAT YOU WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
I WON'T SAY ANYTHING MORE.
BUT AS FOR THIS BOY...
I'D LIKE TO HAVE A WORD WITH HIM
PLEASE, STAY AWAY FROM HIM!
I'LL STAY OUT OF YOUR BUSINESS, HIROMI, BUT I HAVE THE RIGHT TO TALK TO THIS PRECIOUS LITTLE CUB OF YOURS.
PLEASE! HE'S...
SPECIAL !!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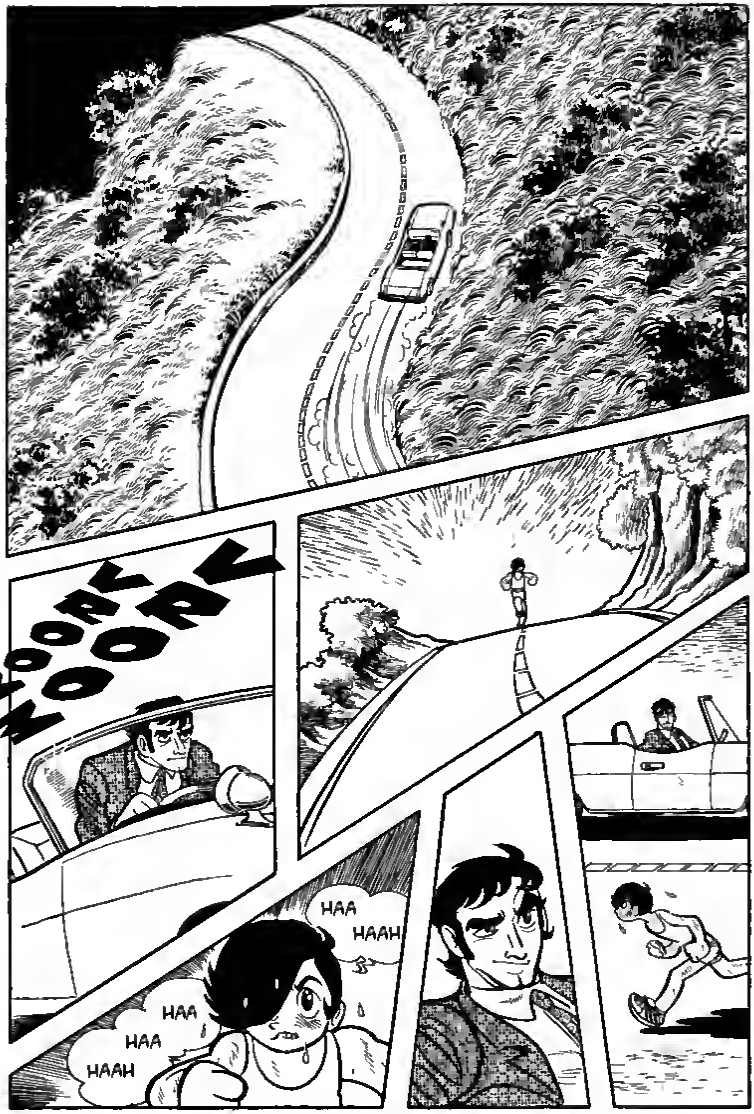
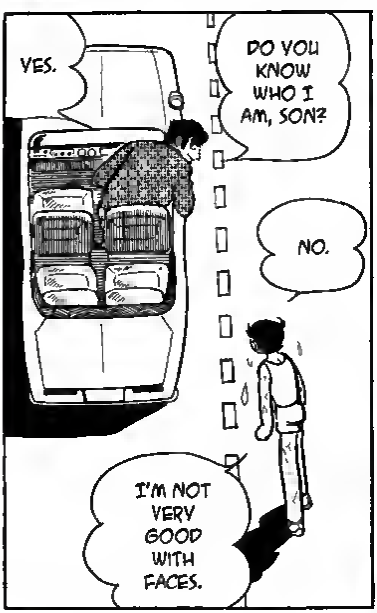
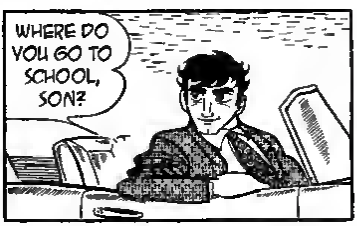

NOORR
NOORR
HAA
HAAH
HAA
HAA
HAAH

ARE YOU THE BOY WHO'S STAYING WITH HIROMI WATARI?
HAA
HAAH
HAAH

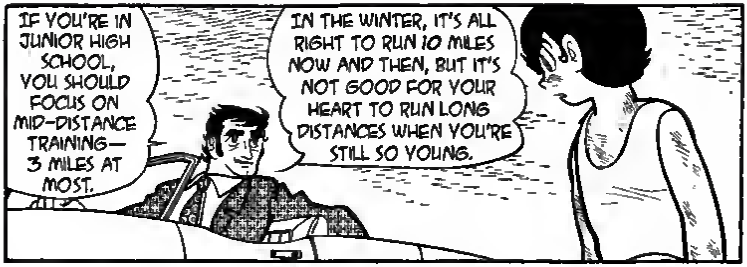
I'M HER FIANCÉ!

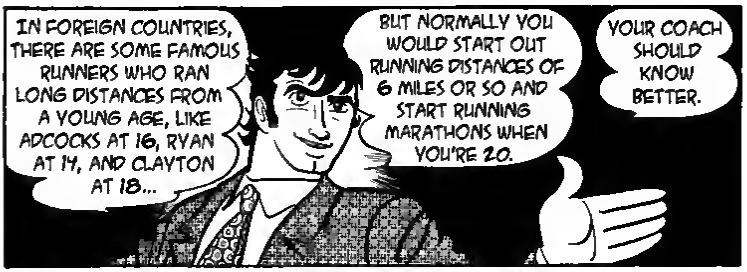
HIROMI'S FIANCÉ?

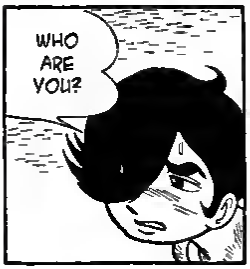

YES.
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM, SON?
NO.
I'M NOT VERY GOOD WITH FACES.


WHERE DO YOU GO TO SCHOOL, SON?

STOP CALLING ME THAT!
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
WHO CARES WHERE I GO TO SCHOOL!


IF YOU'RE IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, YOU SHOULD FOCUS ON MID-DISTANCE TRAINING— 3 MILES AT MOST.
IN THE WINTER, IT'S ALL RIGHT TO RUN 10 MILES NOW AND THEN, BUT IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOUR HEART TO RUN LONG DISTANCES WHEN YOU'RE STILL SO YOUNG.


IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, THERE ARE SOME FAMOUS RUNNERS WHO RAN LONG DISTANCES FROM A YOUNG AGE, LIKE ADCOCKS AT 16, RYAN AT 14, AND CLAYTON AT 18...
BUT NORMALLY YOU WOULD START OUT RUNNING DISTANCES OF 6 MILES OR SO AND START RUNNING MARATHONS WHEN YOU'RE 20.
YOUR COACH SHOULD KNOW BETTER.


WHO ARE YOU?

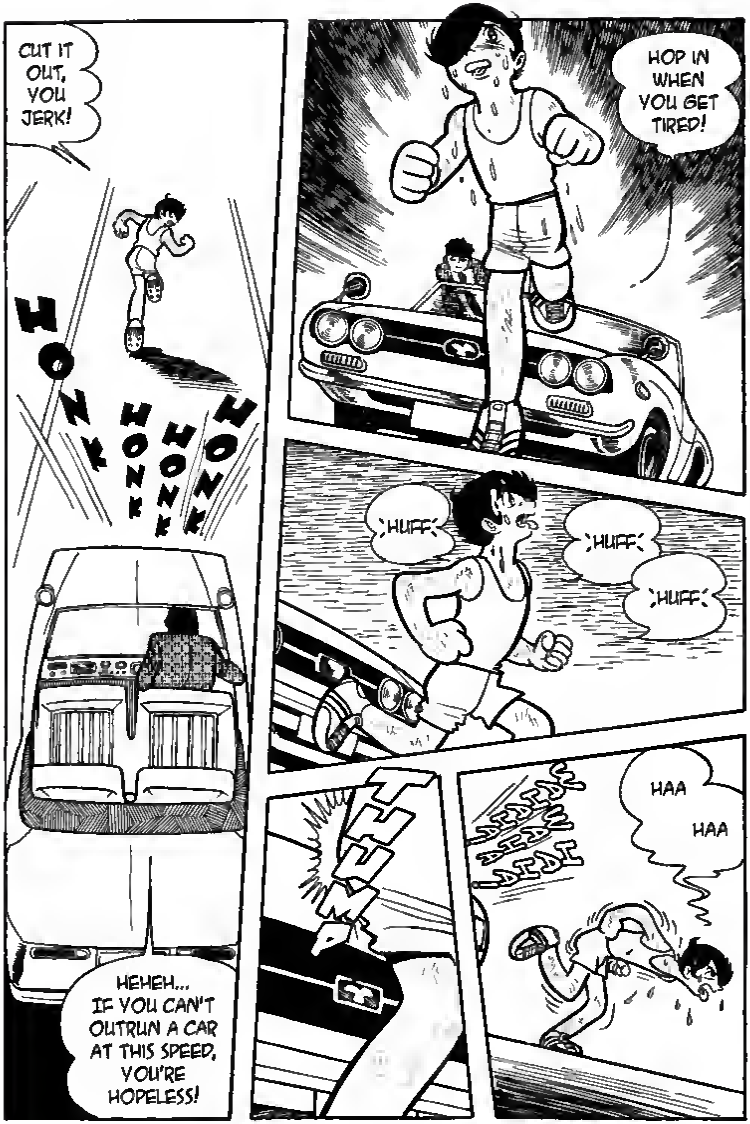
THE NAME'S YAMABE. I'M A RUNNER.
I PLACED 2ND IN THE BOSTON MARA-THON.

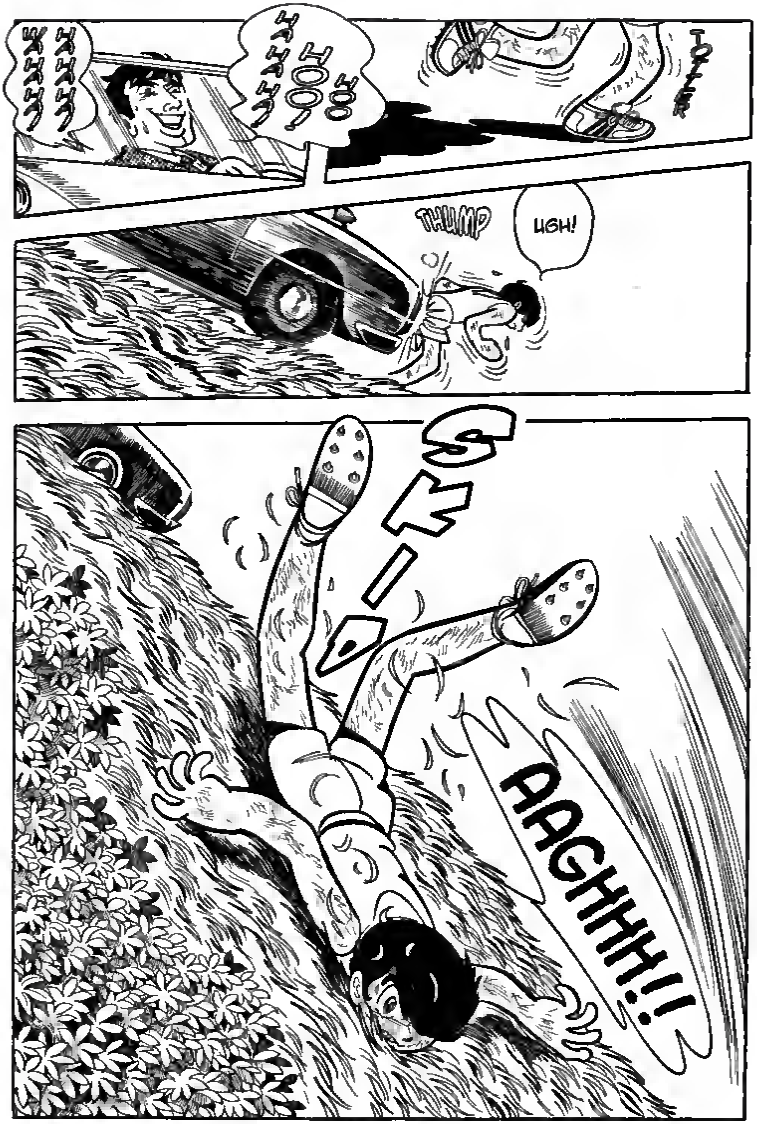
WHAT'S THAT?

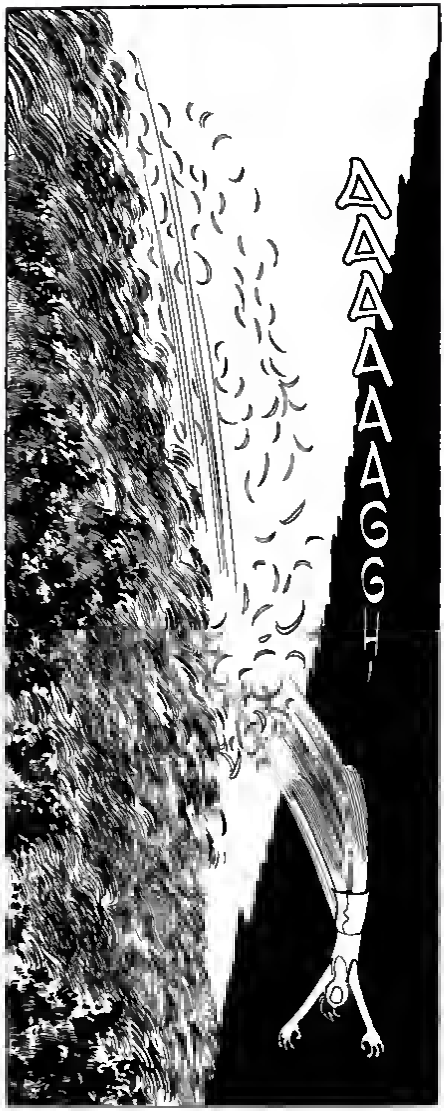
DON'T KNOW MUCH, DO YOU, SONNY?
WHAT DO YOU SAY? IF YOU WANT TO BE A RUNNER, I'LL COACH YOU!

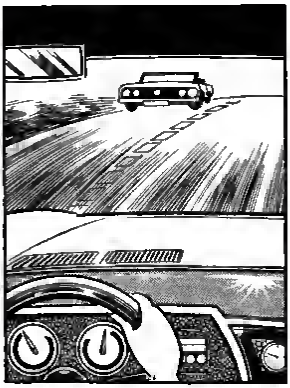
IF I TRAIN YOU FULL TIME, YOU'LL BE RUNNING THE ASAHI MARATHON BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!
WHAT DO YOU SAY? WILL YOU COME WITH ME?
DON'T LET HIROMI HOLD YOU BACK...
FRANKLY, WORKING WITH HIROMI WATARI IS A WASTE OF TIME.
SHE'S A WOMAN, AND AN AMATEUR.
IF YOU WORK WITH A BAD COACH, YOU'LL RUIN YOUR BODY.
I DON'T LIKE YOU!
FIRST OF ALL, I DON'T WANT TO BE A MARATHON RUNNER!
YOU WANT TO COACH ME? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
THEN WHY ARE YOU RUNNING?
I HAVE NOTHING BETTER TO DO.
NOW, GET OUT OF MY SIGHT...
BEFORE I LOSE MY TEMPER AND DO SOMETHING RECKLESS!

GET IN THE CAR.
YOU'RE NOT GOING BACK TO HER HOUSE. I WON'T HAVE IT.
NOBODY TELLS ME WHAT TO DO.
VROOM
"HUFF"
"HUFF"
VROOM
VROOM
VROOM
VROOM
VROOM
MAN...

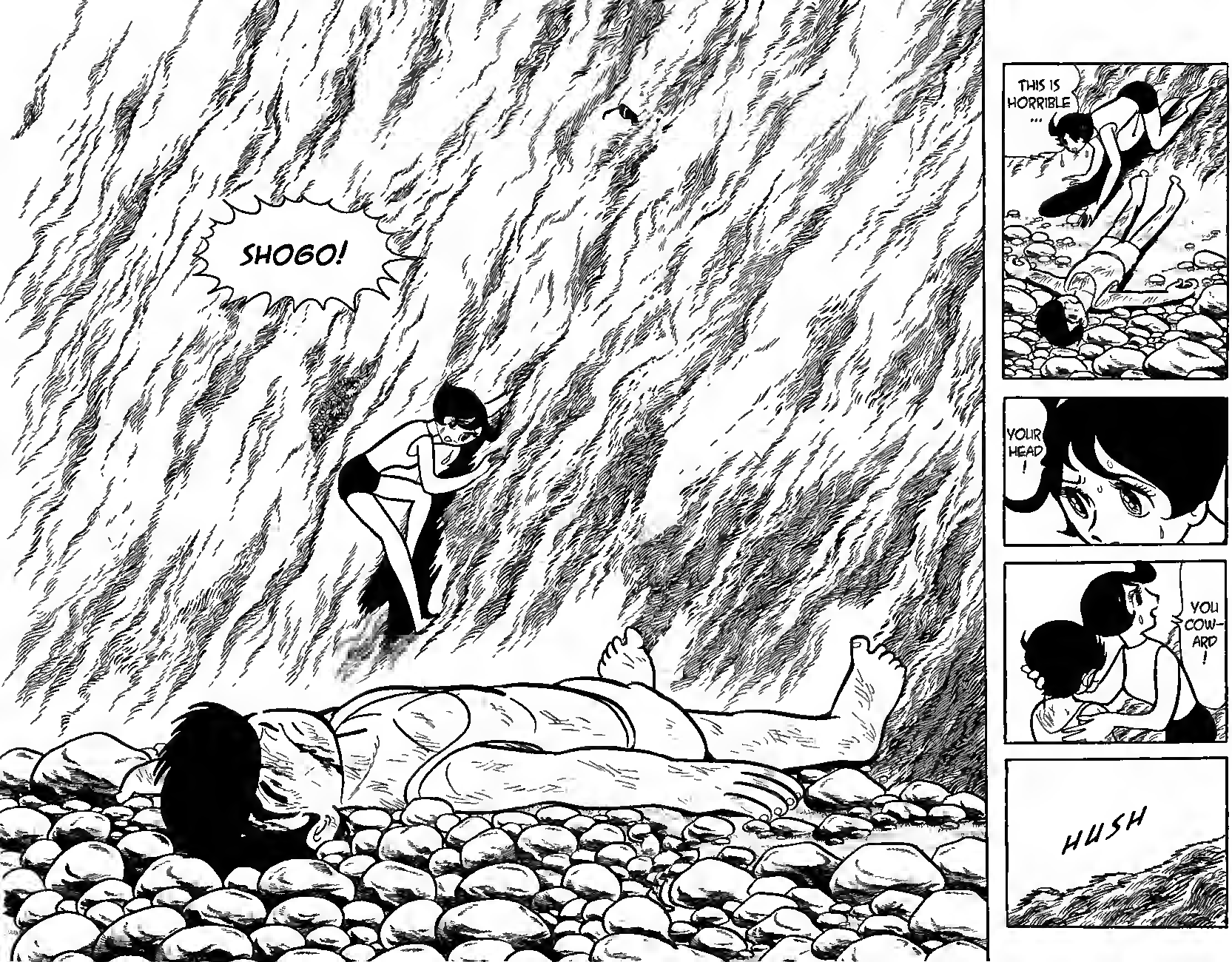

CUT IT OUT, YOU JERK!
HONK
HONK
HONK
HONK
HEHEH... IF YOU CAN'T OUTRUN A CAR AT THIS SPEED, YOU'RE HOPELESS!
HOP IN WHEN YOU GET TIRED!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HAA
HAA


ウヘヘヘヘ
ウヘヘヘヘ
ウヘヘヘヘ
THUMP
UGH!
S-I-I-S
AAGHHH!!


AAAAAAGH!



HE'S DEAD. HE FELL INTO THE RAVINE!
YOU DID IT, DIDN'T YOU?!
SHOGO !!


SHOGO!
THIS IS HORRIBLE ...
YOUR HEAD !
YOU COW-ARD !
HUSH

UGH ...
WHERE AM I...?
IT'S ME! SHOGO, LOOK... IT'S ME, HIROMI!
JUMP
SHOGO... YOU CAN'T DIE! I'M TAKING YOU TO THE DOCTOR! HOLD ON!
SHOGO!

AND DON'T EVER LAND IN THE SLAMMER AGAIN!
GET YERSELF AN HONEST JOB!
THUD!
GO ON, SCRAM, YOU PUNK!
THUD!
SLAM!
CLUNK!